

Directory of  
Ontario Human  
Settlements:

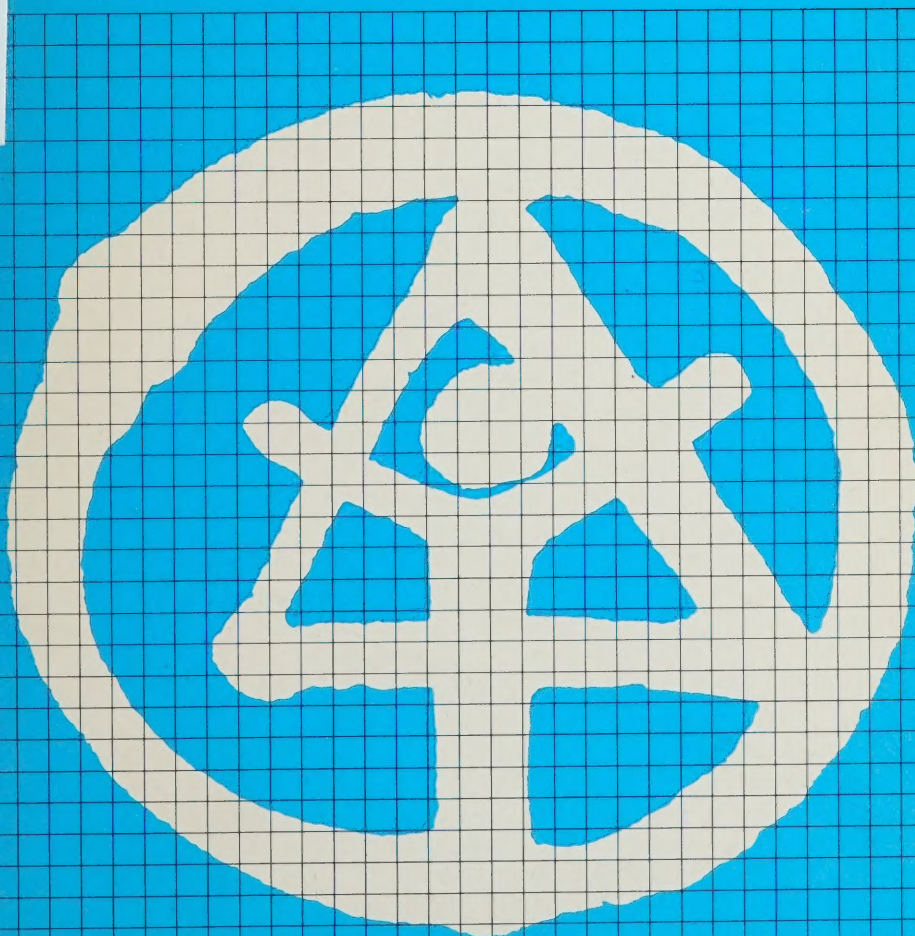
# Solutions


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# Directory of Ontario Human Settlements Solutions

Government  
Publications

Some examples of  
citizen action to  
improve their own  
communities.



Published by the *Ontario Secretariat for Habitat* in preparation for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, May 31-June 11, 1976. The *Ontario Secretariat for Habitat* was set up to coordinate the participation of the province at the Vancouver conference and to involve non-governmental organizations and municipalities in developing awareness of human settlements issues across the province.





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## Introduction

The Directory of Ontario Human Settlements Solutions has been assembled by the Ontario Secretariat for Habitat for the citizens of the province at the time of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver 1976.

Habitat deals with how people live. 'In all communities, the citizen's involvement in social and environmental activities such as cleaning up, painting, tree planting, fiestas, block parties and parades need not depend upon advanced degrees of sophistication but upon local enthusiasm and organization to support it.' *Barbara Ward—Human Settlements: Crisis and Opportunity*

The directory includes examples of small ways individual or groups of citizens have actively pursued logical solutions in their own Ontario settlements. We asked municipalities, newspapers, community groups and individual citizens to submit examples of citizen involvement projects. Projects were to emphasize self-help, citizen initiating and im-

plementing and had to be completed and active at the time of submission. All information was compiled from the material submitted. The content of the Directory of Ontario Human Settlements Solutions was assembled from submissions received in response to our request.

The Directory is to enable communities and neighbourhoods to share the knowledge and experience gained by the citizens involved in the projects listed. The examples demonstrate the efforts of concerned citizens to improve and maintain their communities.

The aim of the Directory is to help citizens of Ontario to participate in determining the future of their settlements long after the Habitat conference ends.





## Visual Arts Handbook Researched by Volunteers

The Visual Arts Handbook contains all the information needed by artists throughout Ontario. It lists all the art galleries and museums in the province and tells how to approach publicity and promotion of one's work and where to buy materials. It is a concise 300-page resource handbook compiled by a network of 150 volunteers in every region of the province.

The project was organized by Visual Arts Ontario, a federation of art organizations representing over 4,500 individuals, through a paid editor. Visual Arts Ontario is funded by the Ontario Arts Council and Canada Council Explorations. However, *it cannot be stressed strongly enough* that the 150 volunteers were responsible for researching the content of the publication and if it were not for them this project would not have been possible.

Because of this published information on the visual arts perhaps the visual environment will be more enhanced.

For further information contact:  
William Boyle  
Visual Arts Ontario  
8 York Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5J 1R2  
(416) 366-1607

## Community Centres—Activity Focal Points

A 60-year-old four-room school house was scheduled for demolition by the Thessalon school board. For some time residents of the community had been searching for premises to accommodate Scouts, Brownies, senior citizens and other community groups. The school was ideal; citizens rallied together and presented a proposal to acquire it for a community centre.

The town council acting on this suggestion was able to negotiate the transfer of the school to the town in exchange for 4½ acres of land. Organizational work for the renovations of the school was managed by a committee of citizens while a federal grant allowed for wages of workmen.

The community centre was opened in 1973 and since then has housed regular community group meetings, reunions, political rallies, weddings and receptions. The Thessalon Community Hall is the focal point for many of the activities of this small community.

For further information contact:  
J. Heard Stewart  
Town of Thessalon  
Box 220  
Thessalon, Ontario  
P0R 1L0  
(705) 842-2217

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The driving force behind the planning, designing and construction of Elmwood and District Community Centre was the Chamber of Com-

merce. Many citizens from in and around the village also participated. Since the centre's opening in 1967, local residents claim that it is as well-known in the vicinity as the village itself.

For further information contact:  
Mr. J. Walsh  
Box 42  
Elmwood, Ontario

The Gloucester Community Centre since its opening in March 1975 has had an 80 per cent capacity turnout to its many regular programs.

The centre houses Information Gloucester, a telephone referral service and also serves as a meeting place for the entire community.

For further information contact:  
Pierre Tessier  
Recreation and Parks Director  
Box 8333  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1G 3U5

Queen Alexandre Recreation and Cultural Centre in Peterborough, is housed in an old school that had been considered surplus by their Board of Education. It contains rooms for meetings and recreational activities, an art gallery and a hall for performing arts. The centre opened January 1976.

For further information contact:  
John W. Wood  
500 George Street North  
Peterborough, Ontario

Concord in the township of Vaughan has inadequate public transportation to other Vaughan recreational facilities.

Since October 1975 Concord has had its own community centre due to the initiative of the area citizens.

It is entirely operated by the community on its own behalf.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Paul Wilson  
Town of Vaughan  
2141 Major MacKenzie Drive  
Maple, Ontario  
L0J 1E0  
(416) 832-2281

The Arena Board and the Lions Club of Capreol launched an impressive canvassing program in 1974 to finance the community centre and arena. From a population of 4,000 the total amount in donations exceeded \$43,000. The citizens of Capreol have contributed greatly in time and funding to make the centre truly a community centre.

For further information contact:  
Mayor F.R. Mazzuca  
Town of Thessalon  
Thessalon, Ontario

### **Organization Advises Citizens on Architectural Conservancy**

The mid-19th century architecture in Port Hope is extensive and unique. As new owners acquire buildings in the town they need guidance in maintenance and preservation to protect their investments and the historical authenticity of the buildings. The local Architectural Conservancy of Ontario conducts a series of monthly workshops called "From the Roof to the Cellar". Through the services of restoration architect

Peter John Stokes, homeowners receive valuable advice in specific areas such as colour schemes, window and door restoration, roof and chimney repair and general guidance on restoring rather than renovating. The series of eight workshops is held in St. Mark's Parish Hall with local A.C.O. members supplying projectors, screens and other equipment. The workshops draw attendance through advertisements in the Port Hope and Peterborough newspapers. Members of A.C.O. attend free of charge while non-members pay \$1.00 per session. Extra funds needed are absorbed by the A.C.O. through annual membership fees.

The organization also employs an architect who is available the first Saturday of every month to advise and guide citizens on home improvements of the older buildings. This service is provided free of charge.

The project was begun in October 1974 and is continuing.

For further information contact:  
 Susan D. Thomas  
 Architectural Conservancy of  
 Ontario  
 Port Hope Branch  
 59 King Street  
 Port Hope, Ontario  
 L1A 2R6  
 (416) 885-6624

### **Can-Amera Games Emphasize Individual Achievement**

Since 1972, Cambridge has competed in a small international Olympics with Saginaw Township, Michigan, U.S.A.

The games bring together persons of different ethnic, economic and cultural backgrounds and provide the opportunity of brotherhood through organized sport. The Galt Rotary Club initially designed the Can-Amera Games as a club project; however, because of their popularity many service clubs and citizens now contribute to the promotion and organizing of the games.

The games are alternately hosted in Cambridge Ontario, and Saginaw Township, Michigan for a three-day period in late August.

All ages compete in the varying sports, from gymnastics and baseball to table tennis, track and field and even horseshoe pitching. Individual achievement, not country placement, is emphasized.

Since the Can-Amera games began, their impact has contributed to the development of organized recreational programs and facilities in Cambridge.

For further information contact:  
 Mr. Peter Paleczny  
 Sports Program Co-ordinator  
 14 Petty Place  
 Cambridge, Ontario.  
 N1R 5X9

### **Meals-On-Wheels Through Volunteers**

The Meals-on-Wheels program for senior citizens in Mitchell is maintained entirely by volunteers.

A local womens church group started the program in 1970 by canvassing local clubs and church groups



for donations. The cooking, baking and distribution are done by volunteers. Fourteen elderly people receive the hot meals every Thursday and are remembered every birthday because of a record kept by the volunteers. A Christmas party and dinner are held each year for these senior citizens. The citizens of Mitchell have proven that senior citizens need not be forgotten.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Ruth E. Kelly  
Box 521  
Mitchell, Ontario  
N0K 1N0

### **Local Craftsmen Form Guild**

A group of local citizens interested in crafts formed the Craft Guild in Gananoque. They then approached St. Lawrence College for help with marketing, quality control and helping them to organize a permanent location.

St. Lawrence College paid local residents as instructors for courses and weekend workshops. In the fall of 1974, 50 persons — Guild members and public — were involved. In the winter of 1975, 85 people were involved. The number of citizens interested and involved in the Guild is steadily increasing. Weaving, pottery, embroidery and tatting are some of the crafts taught.

With the assistance of St. Lawrence College, the Guild has been able to provide a permanent centre and local employment for craftsmen, professional development programs and an outlet for the sale of crafts made in this popular tourist area.

The project was begun in September 1974 and is ongoing.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Jane Baier,  
Gananoque, Ontario.

### **Home of Sir John A. MacDonald Restored**

The Frontenac Historic Foundation, a private charitable foundation, was formed in 1972 to encourage public interest and participation in the preservation of sites, building and objects significant to the history of the City of Kingston and Frontenac County. It is financed by dues and the voluntary contributions of its 223 members. The Board of Directors decided that the 1810 stone house, once occupied by Sir John A. MacDonald and his family should be restored.

The Foundation funded this undertaking through contributions from members and a bank loan.

After the house was restored, the Foundation negotiated a mortgage with Heritage Canada.

Since the work on the project started, a number of other old buildings in the immediate neighbourhood have been purchased, restored and rented. Among the citizens of Kingston there is a new awareness and pride in this revitalized historic neighbourhood.

For further information contact:

Frontenac Historic Foundation  
Box 27  
Kingston, Ontario

## Continuing Education for Cardinal

In the village of Cardinal the citizens voiced concern that there were only sports-oriented activities and no general interest courses available within the community.

The citizens formed a committee and then contacted the Continuing Education department of St. Lawrence College for further guidance. The college, in conjunction with the town council surveyed the community for its learning needs. Then local teachers were recruited and halls located for the courses.

In the fall of 1975, there were six courses established with 57 persons involved. The winter semester had 10 courses with an enrolment of 76. The original committee is constantly evaluating the courses as well as identifying new needs and interests in the community.

The members of the committee are volunteers, while St. Lawrence College provides organizational assistance, salaries for the instructors and rent for facilities.

The range of courses includes sewing, acoustic guitar, French and upholstery.

For further information contact:

Mr. Charles Marsden  
Dundas Street  
Cardinal, Ontario

## A Place of Their Own

In the Owen Sound area McLaughlin House fulfills a need for a central residence and day care centre for retarded adults. The house, willed to St. Andrew's Church by Mr. McLaughlin, a former resident of the community, has since been leased to the Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Members of the St. Andrew's congregation have donated time and money for the renovation of the home into a workable centre. Also, sizable donations were given by the Lee Estate, service clubs and private citizens to ensure the success of the McLaughlin House — Home for Retarded Adults.

The home is managed by a board of governors with a hired staff of four counsellors, a part-time cook and a part-time bookkeeper.

The counsellors provide training in life skills and teach community involvement.

For those persons using the McLaughlin House, the service is indispensable. They are active and functioning citizens with a special place of their own within the community.

For further information contact:

Mr. Andy Baxter  
McLaughlin House  
507 10th Street "A" West  
Owen Sound, Ontario

## **A Consumers Help Office Helps**

Peterborough has a Consumers Help Office which has been of assistance to many of its residents. The office has provided a central location where consumers can direct inquiries or complaints. It has increased awareness of business people to consumer needs and has explained the retailer's position to the consumer. Another service is assistance to the elderly people in the community who often have difficulty understanding and dealing with the purchasing process.

Barbara Beck sought and received the support of 16 other members of the community and from this point was able to receive a Local Initiatives Program grant for a six-month period.

The grant allowed wages for Ms. Beck as project manager and the hiring of required staff through Manpower.

The office was opened November 10, 1975.

For further information contact:

Ms. Barbara Beck  
1226 Milburn Street  
Peterborough, Ontario  
(705) 743-4949

## **A Safe and Stimulating Place for Child's Play**

The traditional school ground generally does not provide sufficient challenge and interest in terms of play. What is needed is a safe and stimulating play environment for junior school children to develop social and physical skills.

In the Waterloo County Board of Education two public elementary schools have been investigating and designing new concepts and ideas in children's recreational facilities. Parent groups from each participating school have been attending guest lectures, collecting resource material, visiting existing playgrounds, reviewing design proposals and assisting in the fund raising and construction of new and progressive play environments. The private business sector has donated materials where possible. Some companies, like Creative Playgrounds, have conducted informal seminars as well as lectures sponsored by provincial government agencies.

A non-profit advisory group provides both the physical and human resources needed to operate the resource centre at Preuter School, Waterloo County. The project was financed by fund raising activities such as book sales, as well as by an Opportunities for Youth Grant.

The two pilot projects at Howard Robertson and Coronation Public Schools in Waterloo which resulted from the research undertaken are considered successful.

The teaching staff at the schools have noted that there has been less fighting, a lower incidence of play-induced injuries and extensive use of the play structures by the children.

The success of these two projects has attracted other school boards into participating in the experiment.





The experience of Waterloo County is being presented as a model for other interested communities at the Conference on Play being held at the Cara Inn, Toronto, October 1976.

For further information contact:

Mr. John S. Brown  
Conestoga College  
299 Doon Valley Drive  
Kitchener, Ontario  
M2G 4M4  
(519) 653-2511

### **W.A.R. on Garbage**

Woodbridge Area Recycling has waged a full scale W.A.R. on garbage. It goes without saying this is an important function in the fight to preserve our environment.

The group was formed in 1973 in reaction to a threat that metropolitan Toronto's garbage would be dumped on a 900-acre area near Maple.

Several women in the Woodbridge area were already recycling their garbage privately. It was through the actions of these women and other concerned citizens that a larger recycling system for the entire area was formed.

W.A.R. is operated entirely on a volunteer basis. A local market gardener donates his truck for the transfer of paper to the recycling plant. The town council has allowed W.A.R. to use a portion of the Town of Vaughan Works Yard as a central depot for recyclables.

W.A.R. receives some money for recyclables — \$5-\$15 a ton for paper and cardboard, and \$15 a ton for

crushed glass, depending on the market. All the proceeds go back into publicity and printed literature to remind citizens to keep their recyclables coming.

W.A.R. supplies an information and fact sheet describing how to start a recycling depot.

For further information contact:

Claire Coates  
Box 213  
Woodbridge, Ontario  
141 1B1  
(416) 851-0802

### **Peterborough Senior Citizens are Well Looked After**

The Peterborough Senior Citizens Council was formed in 1973 and a body of elected persons established to further the interests and promote the happiness and welfare of senior citizens in every way possible. The council is non-political, non-sectarian and non-racial. It is a co-ordinating body and does not interfere in any way with the work being done by any senior citizens of other groups in the area. Its purpose is to stimulate and encourage community interest and support in the development of facilities and programs for senior citizens.

The Council was begun on a recommendation by Social and Family Services in Peterborough. All members volunteer their time and services.

One of the Council's projects is the Senior Citizens Information Bureau which was established to provide

pertinent information to senior citizens.

The office was opened in March 1974 with a co-ordinator, Mrs. Bernice Clark, who is the only salaried person.

For the year of 1975 the Bureau received 3,600 incoming calls and 2,400 visits from senior citizens.

Senior citizens call the Bureau on such matters as finances, housing, health, recreation, companionship and legal problems.

For further information contact:  
W.J. Hardill  
Senior Citizens Information Bureau  
420 Water Street  
Peterborough, Ontario  
K9J 3G6  
(705) 742-7067

### **Twin Valleys Offers Alternative Life Style**

Twin Valleys School is an educational community designed to teach its members how to live, while teaching them how to make a living. The school is located on 300 acres of land near Wardsville, Ontario. Students and teachers are not separated but live, learn and work together establishing the R's of communal-living: rules, roles, relationships, responsibilities and respect.

Students study mathematics, English, French, architectural drafting, art and music in the classroom. They apply studies out in the field where they are installing solar heating, harnessing wind power and experimenting in the production of me-

thane gas from organic waste. Everyone works at Twin Valleys and each student is given as much responsibility as he or she can handle. The geodesic domes used for housing and classroom purposes were constructed through total participation.

The school is derived from a study at St. Clair College where the present founder-director of the school, Mr. George Bullied, was a teacher. It began in 1971 and continues.

The students go to Twin Valleys through the courts, hospitals and referral agencies. Twin Valleys offers an alternate life style and an extended family atmosphere for all those who go there.

For further information contact:  
Mr. George Bullied  
Twin Valleys School  
Wardsville, Ontario  
N0L 2N0  
(519) 785-0400

### **Environmental Organization Active in Mississauga**

The membership card of Save Our Trees and Streams Society clearly states its objectives as follows:

- good planning means the preservation of natural environment wherever desirable and possible
- areas of outstanding beauty must be preserved now, for tomorrow will be too late.
- more parks and open spaces for all to enjoy are needed.



In accordance with the above principles, S.O.T.A.S., since 1972, has executed its work through the presentation of well-informed, technically sound briefs to the Mississauga city council, through letters to the press and by advising individual citizens. At the suggestion and persistence of S.O.T.A.S., citizens are members of the newly founded Environmental Advisory Board of the Town of Mississauga. Other proposals by S.O.T.A.S. are under consideration by the town council.

S.O.T.A.S. membership varies from 100 to 200 people and is financed through membership fees of \$3.00 per annum.

Save Our Trees And Streams Society is influential in the Mississauga area but hopes to accomplish still more changes in policies and programs in local legislation that will serve as examples for other communities.

For further information contact:  
The Chairman  
Save Our Trees And Streams  
Society  
Box 452  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5A 3A2  
(416) 274-5110



## **Prescott — An Eventful Town**

Prescott always seems to be celebrating. First on the calendar is an old-fashioned farewell to the old year. New Year's Levee organized by the Grenville Historical Society has been held in the library each New Year's eve for the past two years.

The entire evening is fashioned in the manner of a 19th century festival. Songs, dances and costumes, as well as food and beverages of the era add to the atmosphere. Many citizens celebrate the New Year in this unique manner.

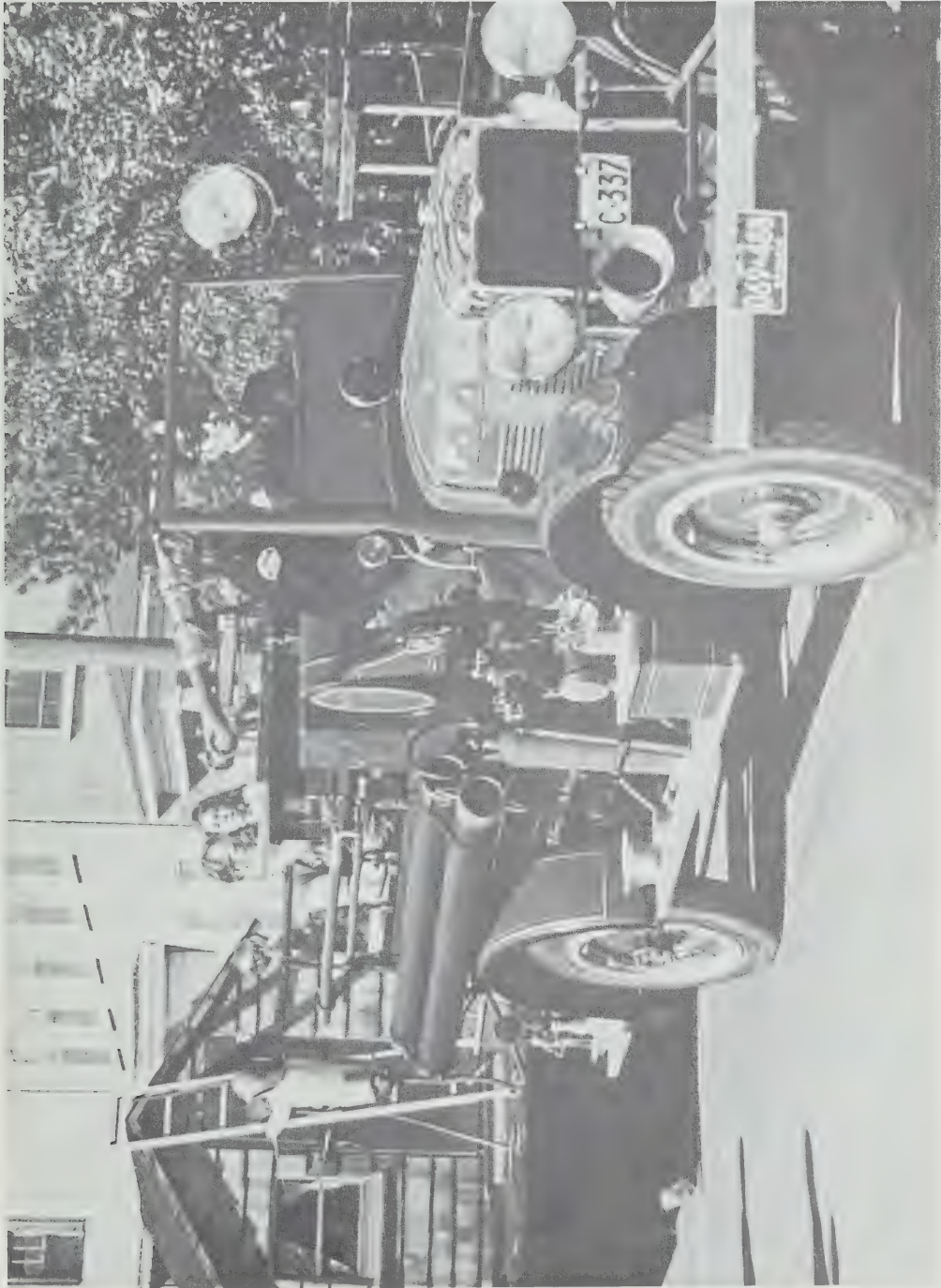
The second celebration which occurs each year on or about February 15 is Heritage Week. A sleigh ride takes place in the inner field of Fort Wellington while films with a national theme are shown in the forts blockhouse. Everyone can warm up around a fire and sip hot chocolate made in a large cast iron pot.

This week of community activity was conceived by Mr. Paul Fortier, a local university student. The expenses are slight and the funds needed are covered by Wintario and Municipal Culture and Recreation Committee grants.

For the last four years, May has ushered in an Antique Fair and Sale. It is sponsored by the Grenville County Historical Society and the Prescott Museum with the proceeds going to the restoration fund for Prescott's historical buildings.

Citizens enjoy the buying and selling and at the same time are reminded of the rich heritage of the area.

Later in May, Bands Day is featured by Grenville District High School Mr. Walter Hofmann first organized the event in 1974 as an opportunity for the community to witness the musical skills of the local youth. Selections written by Mr. Hofmann and



the students are highlighted in the performance.

Another one day musical event which includes bands, but of the old military variety, is held in July or August. The military pageant has been held since 1968 in historical Fort Wellington and allows the citizens to relive the pageantry, weaponry and drills of the 19th century. Fort Henry Guard, Fraser Highlands, and Franche de la Marine (from St. Helen's Island) participate. The Prescott chamber of commerce sponsors the event with the municipal government subsidizing any deficit.

In September 1975 a Fire Prevention and Cleanup Parade was held. The parade was organized by the local volunteer fire brigade to emphasize the need for fire prevention. The Town of Prescott financed trucks and workmen to clear alleyways full of rubble while local citizens cleaned up and inspected their own premises.

For further information contact:  
Sandra S. Lawn  
Box 1794  
Prescott, Ontario  
K0E 1T0  
(613) 925-3480

### **Citizens Build Park Brick by Brick**

A park in the Oshawa Creek area was built through the Brick By Brick citizens movement. Until March 1974 the creek was virtually unused, overgrown and littered. Now the Brick By Brick Park has brick pathways, an adventure playground, picnic

tables and trees, a mile-long physical fitness trail and a footbridge.

The Brick By Brick committee was formed in 1974 and the park completed in September 1975.

Bricks came in varying numbers from private citizens. Materials and labour came from such groups as Bell Canada crewmen, Independent Order of Foresters, Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, T. Eaton Company, Toronto-Dominion Bank and students from General Vanier Secondary School. What is unique about this large and costly undertaking is that not a penny of the funding came from federal or provincial governments.

The Brick By Brick committee, comprised entirely of concerned citizens was responsible for generating and directing the enthusiasm that created the park. It is encouraging to see what energetic and committed citizens can accomplish.

The park is being extensively used by the public and provides a pleasant open space.

For further information contact:  
A. Graham Nelson  
Director of Community Services  
50 Centre Street South  
Oshawa, Ontario  
L1H 3Z7

### **A Happy Haweater Weekend To All**

Approximately eight years ago the Lions Club of Little Current, organized a citizens reunion in the form of a weekend celebration. The yearly



event which has officially been named Haweater Weekend continues to delight the citizens of Little Current.

Since the success of the original event the Lions Club has had to call on other groups such as the Royal Canadian Legion and Recreation Committee to assist in organizing the many programs. Haweater Weekend takes place over the civic holiday weekend in August. It includes a midway, pet show, dances and a show featuring a prominent Canadian performer.

The citizens of Little Current renew acquaintances with old school friends, and are united with other members of the community while working toward the success of the weekend.

The entire community benefits financially from the three-day festival as people come from throughout the district. Haweater Weekend is understandably popular.

For further information contact:  
Mr. A.B. Heise  
Clerk-Treasurer  
Little Current, Ontario  
P0P 1K0  
(705) 368-2277

### **St. Margaret's Chapel Vital to Bruce Peninsula**

The St. Margaret's Chapel is important to the residents of Bruce Peninsula historically and as a tourist attraction. Concern was expressed by citizens that the chapel was slowly slipping into a state of neglect. The municipal council received a L.I.P.

grant for restoration and maintenance of the old stone structure. Members of council have given much of their free time to supervision of its repairs. Citizens have generously donated through St. Margaret's Contribution Box maintained by the Anglican church and management and bookkeeping duties have been absorbed by the township offices. The citizens of Bruce Peninsula have taken steps to preserve St. Margaret's Chapel for their own well-being as well as Canadian heritage.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Milton Hayes  
R.R. 2  
Lion's Head, Ontario  
N0H 1W0  
(705) 61-W-5

### **Students In Dundas Valley Raise Funds To Preserve Niagara Escarpment Land**

Students from Parkside High School, Dundas and the Ancaster High School have waged a campaign for the preservation of the Dundas Valley segment of the Niagara Escarpment. They hope that their success will inspire and encourage about 90 high schools in areas lying close to the Niagara Escarpment from the Bruce Peninsula to Queenston to work toward preserving this natural area.

Most of the escarpment is still untouched but the students feel that it is only a matter of time before encroaching development will destroy this natural heritage.

A group called the Students' Park Fund was formed in 1971 under the direction of Ancaster teacher Alan Stacey and Dundas Parkside teacher Don Britain.

Since its inception SPC has raised more than \$40,000 for the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority. Through various fund raising projects it has helped purchase more than 160 acres of land.

The money raised goes to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority to purchase land according to the Niagara Escarpment Preservation Act. The act states the provincial government will pay 75 per cent of land costs if the local conservation authority raises the rest of the money.

The Students' Park Fund has undertaken to raise as much money as possible.

Local service clubs, media, business and industry have given full co-operation and support for this project.

Fund raising efforts have included canvassing, tree-seedling sales, swim-a-thons, work projects of student-donated chores, and soliciting of local business.

Although students graduate each year, the program is constantly revitalized with fresh enthusiasts.

For further information contact:

Mr. A. Stacey  
Staff Advisor  
c/o Ancaster High School  
374 Jerseyville Road West  
Ancaster, Ontario  
L9G 3K8  
(416) 648-4468

### **Two Ontario Towns Celebrate Canada's Birthday**

Since 1971 the small community of Elliot Lake has celebrated Dominion Day weekend with a festival.

A baby contest, sailing regatta, "mini-putt" tournament, bands and fireworks are highlighted during the five days.

Local industry, service clubs and the chamber of commerce sponsor contests or parade floats or give donations to ensure the success of the celebration.

The uranium capital celebrates Canada's birthday in a proud and fun-filled way.

For further information contact:

Mr. R. Taylor  
Town of Elliot Lake  
Hillside Drive North  
Elliot Lake, Ontario  
(705) 848-2287 or 2288

Not to be forgotten are the July 1st celebrations in Aurora. A cabaret, birthday ball and beef barbecue are featured.

Service clubs, businesses and citizens participate in the many events offered during the two day festivities.

The celebration has been a yearly event since 1963.

For further information contact:

K.B. Rodgers  
Clerk Administrator  
Town of Aurora  
27 Yonge Street South  
Aurora, Ontario  
(416) 727-4211

### **Town Hall Saved As Centennial Project**

During 1964 the old town hall in Ancaster, Ontario was in danger of being demolished. Concerned citizens formed A.C.T.I.O.N. Ancaster Incorporated (Ancaster Citizens to Improve Our Neighbourhood), which obtained permission from Town Council to carry out restoration at their own cost. The town hall became the centennial project of the community.

A fund-raising committee obtained deductible status for the project and was able to raise \$6,000 from the community. The town council donated \$3,000 with another \$3,000 obtained through a Community Centre Act grant. Additional contributions came from various businesses in the form of building materials, electrical work, restoration of oil paintings and architectural drawings. The project began in November 1965 and was completed in September 1966.

The restored town hall provides the community with a charming location for meetings such as the Senior Citizens Clubs, Hamilton Conservatory of Music, Horticultural Society and also for weddings. The accomplish-

ment of the project has instilled pride in the community and sparked restoration and upkeep of other aging buildings in Ancaster.

For further information contact:

P.W. Speller  
Brandon House  
Wilson Street  
Ancaster, Ontario  
(416) 648-6311

### **Coffee League Aids Rehabilitation of Alcoholics**

The Coffee League of Espanola had small beginnings in private homes but has now expanded to include 12 permanent members and the purchase of an old church as a drop-in centre and club headquarters.

It was initially through the insight of a doctor, a priest and an alcoholic in the community that follow-up care and support for the alcoholic after hospital discharge were first realized and arranged.

The entire community as well as local doctors wholeheartedly give their support to the club.

Enough donations from private citizens and business allowed the club to operate for 18 months from a private home with last year bringing enough donations for the club to buy the old church and establish a permanent club house.

The Addiction Research Foundation supplies the club with literature and education materials about alcoholism.

The Coffee League has established weekly Thursday meetings where films are shown and discussions follow which interest both the regular and new members. In addition, the Coffee League has established weekly Sunday meetings, for members only, to discuss individual problems relating to alcoholism.

The Coffee League headquarters are always open and provide a place for members and visitors to play cards, read, watch T.V. or just rest.

The Coffee League which began in November 1973 provides an on-going, worthwhile and necessary service to the community.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Aurele Brault  
Box 772  
Espanola, Ontario  
P0P 1C0  
(705) 869-3412

### **Thunder Bay Mobilizes "Handi Transit"**

The "Handi Transit" in Thunder Bay has been a great success with the numerous handicapped citizens who are on fixed incomes and find it difficult to use public transit.

These citizens can now be assured of getting to stores, jobs, medical appointments, business activities, or friends homes.

The service operates from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. six days a week and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sundays. The project was begun January 1975 and is still operating to date. A L.I.P. grant has covered the wages for the three dri-

vers and three dispatchers. The Handicapped Action Group Incorporated is responsible for organization and management and any expenses incurred above the wages.

A van was donated by the Kiwanis Club of Westfort with the insurance and lettering for the van covered by the March of Dimes. A folding aluminum ramp was provided by Hawker Siddely Company. The Multiple Sclerosis Society donates \$10 monthly for operating costs with the citizens using the service donating whatever they can in a fare box installed in the van by the Thunder Bay Transit Department.

Through this service the handicapped citizens of Thunder Bay are no longer house-bound but are free to circulate in the community and participate in the many activities which are already available for the able-bodied members of the community.

For further information contact:  
Floyd W. James  
c/o Handicapped Action Group Inc.  
Rm. 1 Basement Wing North  
McKellar Hospital  
Thunder Bay "F", Ontario  
(705) 623-5504

### **Citizens Of Centretown Ottawa Have Say In Their Future**

Centretown had been suffering the ravages of indiscriminate land development for several years before the citizens of the area united to find solutions to their slowly disintegrating neighbourhood. A Citizens Planning Committee was formed, com-



posed of local homeowners, tenants, businessmen and landowners.

The project was financed by the City of Ottawa which assigned a planning unit (senior planner researcher, draftsman and secretary) to the study and provided the Citizens Planning Committee with expense money. The Committee was made up of nine representatives of each of the seven sub-neighbourhoods plus an elected executive.

The first product of the study was the "Concept Plan" which not only addressed the usual use and traffic concerns but also focused on various social concerns and policy areas.

The second product was the "Development Plan" which sought to develop an entirely new concept of zoning regulations more attuned to the Centretown needs than those then being used by the city.

Throughout the study citizens were heavily involved in approving ideas and generating new concepts for Centretown as well as selling these ideas to the planners.

The study project has successfully brought about new re-zoning laws, a non-profit housing corporation, co-operative day care centres, and many other social necessities and amenities.

This watchdog project was begun in the spring of 1973 to ensure that the citizens of Centretown have a say in their community's future.

For further information contact:

Judy Forrest  
95 Florence Street  
Ottawa, Ontario

### **Athletic Competition For Physically Disabled**

As previously mentioned, Cambridge participates in the annual Can-Amra games for athletes of all ages.

However, the physically disabled of Cambridge have not gone without recognition. Since 1975 the yearly Ontario Games for the Physically Disabled have been held in the city.

Financial support and constructive advice has come from Mutual Life Assurance Company and the provincial government, with Waterloo Regional Sports Council, city of Cambridge, and representatives of associations for the physically disabled.

The games, which allow the athletes to display their capabilities rather than their disabilities and aim for self-improvement through athletic participation, span three days in early summer.

It is hoped that the public will become aware of the needs of the disabled and that the barriers they face physically and psychologically will start to be broken down through such events as the Ontario Games for the Physically Disabled.

For further information contact:

Mr. Art Kelly  
212 South Street  
Cambridge "G", Ontario

## **Advisory Committee Acts As Environmental Conscience**

Representatives of University of Waterloo and other environmental interest groups have become part of the planning department of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo.

They are called the Environmental Advisory Committee and are now financed and managed by the regional government. Their self-appointed task is to ensure that environmental concerns are given equal consideration in any planning process in the local government.

This undertaking has made regional politicians and planners aware of the need for policies and programs which deal with environmental and ecological issues in a systematic way.

A data bank of environmental information has been organized, using the university's facilities. The recent draft of the official regional plan now contains specific policies dealing with the conservation of important areas as a direct result of the Environmental Advisory Committee's input.

The Committee hopes that this awareness and direction will inevitably lead to an improved environment through harmonious interaction of man with nature.

The program was begun in 1969 and is continuing.

For further information contact:

Dr. R.S. Dorney  
School of Urban and Regional  
Planning  
University of Waterloo  
Waterloo, Ontario  
N2L 3G1  
(519) 885-1211

## **Bon Accord Lives Up To Its Name**

Bon Accord provides a transitional community by which some men have been able to move from skid row to the mainstream of society. For others it provides a humane and more personally satisfying alternative to jail and a period of surcease from the life of the street.

The Bon Accord complex is located on the outskirts of the picturesque village of Elora and comprises of an old stone farmhouse with adjoining boarding facilities recently added. A large barn has been converted into a storefront and woodwork shop where the residents restore old furniture and make excellent pine reproductions.

Bon Accord opened February 1, 1967 with living accommodation for eight. Another wing opened in the autumn of 1969 increasing the residency to 27. The live-in workers receive wages and pay room and board. Sale of products made in the shop and income from board help defray costs to the Addiction Research Foundation. Bon Accord is a pilot project of the foundation which is funded provincially. A form of community government, in which both residents and staff are eligible





to vote, allows residents to share decision-making, subject to A.R.F. expectations and regulations.

For further information contact:

Mr. D.F. Collier  
Program Director  
R.R. 1  
Elora, Ontario  
N0B 1S0  
(519) 846-5388

## **Information Gloucester Knows It All**

Information Gloucester has a staff of over 20 who are available to answer any citizen enquiries on all aspects of social and community life. They offer friendly contact for newcomers and a readily available source of information to all. The service is instrumental in identifying unmet needs in the community and assisting in the fulfilment of those needs. The centre also acts as a referral service to those requiring counselling or assistance.

Another important aspect of the service is the dispersal of information which is made available to local newspapers, radio and television.

The centre also has a regular program at the local television station and assists any organizations needing publicity through T.V. or other media.

Information Gloucester was initially conceived and guided by a committee of 10 citizens of the community. Initial finances and facilities were donated by such groups as the libra-

ry and local newspaper. The centre is manned entirely by volunteers.

The project has been in existence since January 1973.

For further information contact:

Ms. Helen Soroczan  
Information Gloucester  
Gloucester Community Centre  
2339 Ogilvie Road  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1J 8M6  
(613) 741-0770

## **Community Radio For Northern Ontario**

Residents of Sioux Lookout and Hudson have organized a community radio station that provides local news, weather and sports, community announcements and emergency information to the surrounding area.

The need was foreseen by a few local citizens in 1973. An ad hoc committee was formed to investigate the feasibility of getting access to the C.B.C. low powered repeat transmitter. Permission was granted and the Sioux-Hudson Community Radio Society went on the air for the first time on July 15, 1975.

Money was received through membership, individual and local business donations and a provincial government grant of \$300.

Daily radio programming is done by volunteers from 13 to 66 years of age and the townspeople are involved in supplying news and community items for broadcast. There is

a good response to open telephone talk shows and controversial programs.

Radio is a luxury we take for granted in the south but is not a reality for many communities in the north. However Sioux Lookout and Hudson have made it a reality. Hats off to them.

For further information contact:  
Mr. S.R. Willis  
Sioux-Hudson Community Radio  
Society  
Box 147  
Sioux-Lookout, Ontario  
P0V 2T0  
(807) 737-1318

### **Citizen Action Committees Deal With Ongoing Problems**

The Downsview-Weston Action Community was formed in November 1973 and has been providing information to citizens about official plans formulating in their area. DWAC deals also with such problems as transportation, urban planning, youth problems, and communication. The project has been important both in defining a strong sense of community and in pin-pointing the many problems.

The organization has proved invaluable as a means of exchanging information, gathering facts and giving support to various action groups working on specific problems. Funds for printing and distributing newsletters are collected from members with extra assistance from IBM, YMCA, Addiction Research Foundation and York University.

DWAC was also responsible for the statistical resource handbook mentioned in this directory.

Downsview-Weston Action Committee gives a vital service to the citizens of Downsview. Its members act as watchdogs and determiners of the future plans of this high-density, low-income area of Toronto.

For further information contact:  
Pat O'Neill  
11 - 9 Shoreham Ct.  
Downsview, Ontario  
(416) 661-8547

An active group in the Borough of Etobicoke Ward 5, is the Lakeshore Ratepayers Association. Among their achievements is having a traffic light installed at a hazardous crossing along Lakeshore Boulevard.

For further information contact:  
John Bowen  
70-36 Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M8W 3L2  
(416) 259-1737

### **Forest Develops Co-operative Nursery School And Playground**

In Forest there was an obvious need for recreational facilities and opportunities for pre-school children.

Sarnia-Lambton Centre for children and youth, the local Health Unit and Lambton College, initiated a program to prepare the way for parents to set up and operate a co-operative nursery.

The program was carried out for 15 weeks in a local church with parents actively participating.

From this program came the Toddle-In-Co-Op Nursery School. The parents of the attending children form the executive to manage the school, and through money raised by book sales, bake sales etc., build the needed equipment to furnish the school. Financing for the school is provided by the fees paid by the parents with a town subsidy ensuring that under-privileged pre-schoolers can attend. Also, the rest of the community is most generous in donations of materials which often cannot be provided by the parents, e.g., books and paints.

The nursery has become an integral part of the community, directing the way to awareness and concern for the needs of the pre-schooler. One family has become so aware of the needs of the toddlers that it has provided swimming in the pool at its residence. The town is providing more facilities such as new parks for these young citizens.

For further information contact:  
President  
Toddle-In-Co-Operative Nursery of  
Forest, Incorporated  
Box 729  
Forest, Ontario

There is also a new playground in Forest which makes available a safe and pleasant place for small children to play.

The land was donated by the local Agricultural Society with the build-

ing of swings, slides, etc. done by local area residents.

Forest is very aware of the need to create a safe and interesting environment for tomorrow's citizens.

For further information contact:

Mr. Floyd C. Cable  
28 Argyle Street  
Box 528  
Forest, Ontario  
N0N 1J0  
(519) 873-2488

### **Senior Citizens Pass On Skills and Handicrafts**

Through a New Horizons grant from the federal government, senior citizens in Eganville are able to meet socially and teach younger people crafts that otherwise might be forgotten.

The local town hall in Eganville is used by senior citizens as a meeting place. The federal grant financed the materials needed for crafts such as spinning wheels and upholstering equipment. The grant also allows for money to provide transit for those who are shut in.

One lady teaches spinning while others give help in crocheting, tatting, etc.

The senior citizens are not only learning themselves but offering a special opportunity for younger persons to appreciate and master handicrafts.

The first meeting was held September 1974 and groups continue to meet every second Thursday.





For further information contact:

Mrs. Johnston Smith  
Eganville, Ontario  
K0J 1T0  
(613) 618-6515

### **Private Citizens Publish History Book**

Because of the interest and enthusiasm of Mrs. Bernice Trimble and the other ladies of Belfountain-Rockside Women's Institute, there is now a published history book of the Peel County area.

Mrs. Trimble and other members of the Women's Institute contacted residents, schools, churches and businesses in their process of uncovering historical facts about the area.

The town council of Caledon granted the funds required for researching the material for the book. The down payment to the printers was drawn from the treasury of the Women's Institute and from personal loans from the members.

*Belfountain — Caves, Castles and Quarries* by Mrs. Bernice Trimble, went on sale June 10, 1975 and continues to sell very well at \$6.50 a copy.

Citizen effort has linked Peel county with its past.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Bernice Trimble  
Belfountain, Ontario  
L0N 1B0  
(519) 927-5545

### **Community Newsletter Informs**

The Centennial Community and Recreation Association has been publishing an informative newsletter each month since 1972.

A typical issue of approximately 26 pages may feature an article on the workings of municipal government written by a local alderman, application forms for an area softball team and announcements of many other local activities for that month. The newsletter is financed by advertising and association funds. Any organization, business, government or citizen is encouraged to submit material. The editor then compiles the newsletter from information submitted and the final draft is sent to a local business to be printed in the newsletter format. The pages of the newsletter are stapled together by volunteers and delivered to 1300 area homes by voluntary street representatives. The association feels the newsletter aids in their functioning more efficiently and the area residents benefit from the sense of organization and unity in their community.

For further information contact:  
Centennial Community and Recreation Association  
Box 173  
Highland Creek  
West Hill, Ontario  
(416) 282-6997

### **Pioneer Cemetery Restored**

In the township of South-West Oxford was an old abandoned pioneer cemetery. There had been no burials

in recent memory and the grave stones and markers in many cases were toppled and broken. A cement cairn was constructed to contain grave stones, the ground around the plot cultivated, and trees and seedlings planted. With the help of councillor Brown and other township employees who donated their time and labour, the cemetery has been rehabilitated into an honourable monument to the forgotten citizens of the area.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Helen Prouse  
Clerk of South-West Oxford  
Township  
R.R. 1 Mt. Elgin, Ontario

### **Peterborough's Local Women Are Active**

The Peterborough Local Council of Women was founded 63 years ago and is an on-going federation of 20 local organizations comprising of 3,000 members. The organization serves as a medium of communication for its federated groups in promoting and forwarding any work of common interest for the good of the community. Council's aim is to discover and research needs of the community and then to organize committees to work towards fulfilling those needs.

The Council has concerned itself with such issues as lack of life-saving equipment at local parks, unprotected railway crossings within the city, and enforcement of the local anti-noise bylaw.

Successful projects in recent years include organizing the Peterborough Arthritis Society, promotion of a school for the mentally retarded and establishing a recreation centre for senior citizens.

The local Council of Women in Peterborough is an active group monitoring the issues and concerns in the area.

For further information.

Mrs. S. Malsch  
Peterborough Local Council of Women  
1271 Monaghan Road  
Peterborough, Ontario  
K9J 1Y7  
(705) 743-3281

### **Landmark Integrated Into New Downtown Complex**

The downtown business core of Peterborough was suffering as many city centres do with the addition of peripheral shopping malls.

The municipal government and the private business section of the community joined in financial partnership to revitalize the city core. No provincial or federal government funds were applied for. A fully enclosed, climate controlled retail office and hotel complex was begun late in 1973 and finished in May 1975. The new structure was designed to preserve the old town hall and clock.

The entire complex is easily accessible to the handicapped and supported and enjoyed by the citizens from Peterborough and district.



For further information contact.

Mr. John Wood  
Planning Director  
City Hall  
500 George Street North  
Peterborough, Ontario

### **Experience '75 — A Good Experience**

The Elliot Lake Recreation Committee recognized the need for a youth program for the teenagers of the area.

The first step was an activity night for the youth, organized with the assistance of the Elliot Lake Teen Committee. The evening was a great success and led to a pilot program for an eight-week period during the school vacation.

The Town of Elliot Lake and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation shared the funding equally. Activities were all-encompassing from co-educational sports, to discussion and debates on the problems and issues of adolescence e.g. law and the teenager. The high attendance records indicate that the teenagers enjoyed participating in the program.

The teenagers entertained an audience at a wind-up talent show including magicians and contemporary musicians.

For further information contact:

Mr. J.F. Bradford  
Director of Recreation  
W.H. Collins Centre  
120 Hillside Drive North  
Elliot Lake, Ontario  
(705) 848-2871

### **A Community Walk-A-Thon Finances A Sheltered Workshop**

The citizens of Trenton, Brighton and district, in co-operation with the Association for the Mentally Retarded rallied together to provide a workshop for the mentally handicapped persons in the area.

The Association, with the help of the Trenton Chamber of Commerce, organized a Walk-A-Thon which the community fully supported with their donations. The money needed was raised in this one day event.

The Association was then further assisted by the Trenton Kiwanis Club in their accepting the challenge of organizing and supervising the construction of the workshop. Members of the association and the Kiwanis Club also donated time and labour to the building process. The project has given the mentally retarded residents of the Trenton area a place to go to work and learn new skills. It has given them a sense of belonging and well deserved dignity as contributing, productive citizens of the community.

For further information contact.

F.E. Leveridge  
Trenton — Brighton & District  
Association for the Mentally  
Retarded  
11 Canal Street  
Trenton, Ontario  
(613) 392-3546

## **Algoma Fall Festival A Major Event**

The Algoma Fall Festival was first organized through the Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce by a group of interested citizens and has now expanded to include such groups as Folk Arts Association, Allied Arts Council, Board of Education and various unions.

The Algoma Fall Festival takes place annually in Sault Ste. Marie the last five weekends in September and the first weekend of October. The lovely autumn colours are at their peak at this time for all the visitors coming to the festival to enjoy.

Each year a steadily increasing number of people from the Algoma district and tourists from other provinces and the United States attend the exhibitions, performances and workshops featured in the festival schedule.

Attractions include the Royal Shakespearean Company of England, Moe Koffman, Hamilton Philharmonic and exhibits of Emily Carr and the Group of Seven. Many local artists take part in the workshops and perform at the Festival as well.

The Festival was formed in 1972, granted a provincial charter as a non-profit corporation and registered as a charitable, tax deductible organization. Financial support is sought through private and corporate sectors and through grants from municipal, provincial and federal governments. With the exception of

a paid secretary, the management of the festival is done by volunteers. Public receptions following Festival performances are sponsored by local service clubs, unions and colleges.

The first Algoma Fall Festival took place in the fall of 1973. The festival intends to continue to expand the opportunities for citizens and students and to provide a variety of stimuli for the artistic development of the community.

For further information contact:  
Mrs. Judith Robertson  
Algoma Arts Festival Association  
Box 536  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario  
(705) 949-0822

## **Project P.R.I.D.E. Rejuvenates Business District of Welland**

The physical decay of many downtown Welland business properties was evident and the economic climate and market conditions promised no improvement.

Project P.R.I.D.E. (Preservation, Restoration, Improvement of the Downtown Environment) was conceived and sponsored by the Welland Chamber of Commerce.

A local advisory board for the Local Initiatives Program comprised of 15 citizens, reviewed the project when submitted. Due to the nature of the project the full co-operation of participating businessmen was given throughout. Other segments of the community such as trade unions and suppliers also became involved

through their desire that the project be a success.

The federal L.I.P. grant provided most labour costs while participating businesses supplied materials, tools and equipment.

The project provided the impetus for many businesses to carry out major interior and exterior improvements. The demonstration of the faith of the business community encouraged the City of Welland to concentrate on efforts to bring new development to the area, to improve parking facilities and re-build sidewalks and roadways. The project has restored life to the core of downtown Welland, once again making it the heart of the city.

For further information contact:

W.J. Vigare  
General Manager  
Chamber of Commerce  
55 East Main Street  
Welland, Ontario  
(416) 732-7515

### **Libraries Involving People**

The Library Involving People solved a need in Pelham. Unsupervised school children and the lack of a cultural and recreational centre have been overcome to some extent by the formation of a library in this small town.

Films and twice weekly craft sessions are held for all the Pelham school children. Residents of the Westwood Home for Retarded visit the library weekly. They learn such skills as silk-screening and pup-

petry. A lot of time and energy are being donated by citizens toward helping the retarded pre-schoolers from the area. Senior citizens support the wide range of activities offered at the library including weaving, pottery, ceramics, Chinese artistic dancing, stoneware, stone polishing, cutting and finishing, and physical fitness courses. The many local residents who donate their time and talents to the library insure their own paintings and valuable displays. The project is financed through a six-month L.I.P. grant project.

For further information contact:

Mrs. J. Keating  
Town of Pelham Public Library  
Board  
Box 830  
Fonthill, Ontario  
L0S 1E0

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In response to the questioning of residents, West Carlton Township Council appointed three concerned citizens and a Mayor's representative to form a library board.

One of the main concerns was housing the library, as there were no buildings available in this small rural community.

However, with local donations and a provincial grant, a "Library-on-Wheels" was set in motion.

A 25-foot Wickers camper was modified and stocked with approximately 3,000 books. The library now has a family membership of 700 and a "Books-by-Mail" service for the physically or environmentally re-

stricted. The library offers an alternative to both adult and child in a predominantly sports oriented area.

The library board was organized October 1974 and has been operational since February 1975.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Carol Millierwood  
Box 112  
Carp, Ontario  
K0A 1L0  
(613) 839-3006

### **Physically Handicapped are Mobile and Represented in Sarnia**

The name of the organization in Sarnia and County of Lambton clearly outlines the philosophy and aims of the organization. It is called Sarnia Handicapped Aiming for Rehabilitation and Equality. The organization systematically gathers and prints facts about the changing needs of the disabled as well as initiates, develops and promotes new or additional programs which fulfill those defined needs.

One of the first accomplishments of the organization after its formation in May 1973, was a van which is available upon demand for transportation. The van was financed entirely through public donations.

The organization is managed by a board of directors elected by volunteers and the physically handicapped. The physically handicapped of Sarnia are now mobile and have a representative organization of concerned citizens to voice their changing needs.

For further information contact:

Director of the Corporation  
Box 782  
Sarnia, Ontario.

OR

Mrs. Edith M. Glenn  
(519) 344-0622

### **Oakville Students Initiate Study of Area's Natural Features to Develop Integrated Parkway System**

Within Oakville's town limits there are several natural creeks, valleys and wooded ravines. The objectives of a study of this area initiated by the students of Sheridan college under the supervision of Mr. Norman Sibbick were:

1. To produce a desirable concept for an integrated park system to connect the existing natural areas by means of a greenbelt linkage.
2. To furnish a network of walkways and paths to provide pedestrian access between many of Oakville's parks and ravines, as well as recreational facilities located within such spaces.

The study encompassed the entire area of Oakville. All the creeks, ravines and wooded lots were studied in their relationship to one another in order to investigate and illustrate the feasibility of connecting all these natural areas. The flora and fauna which normally inhabit these areas were also categorized and listed.

The student's salaries and operating expenses were financed by the Ford Motor Company under its "Seedling Projects." Sheridan College sup-



plied the space, reproduction facilities and phones. The initial White Oaks Trail report in 1972 led to Oakville adopting many features of the study in their "Open Space Policies."

In 1974, Oakville high school students with help of a provincial government grant and Ford Motor Company completed a clean-up program for the 16-mile Oakville Creek area.

Also some walkways and camping areas were developed and purchased by the town of Oakville.

The Halton Region Conservation Authority is continuing to acquire flood plain lands in major creek areas.

All of these accomplishments are directly related to the efforts of the White Oak Trail study compiled by the students at Sheridan College.

For further information contact:

Norman Sibbick  
Community Planning  
Sheridan College  
Trafalgar Road  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 2L1  
(416) 845-9430 ext 275

### **Citizens Take Action to Prevent Pakenham from Becoming Ghost Town**

Pakenham, once a thriving community of 800, had become stagnant and somewhat run down since the "dirty thirties". Former flourishing establishments had closed their doors, business life was almost at a stand-

still, and young people of post high school age were forced to leave to seek employment and accommodation elsewhere.

Some 12 years ago Mr. & Mrs. R.A. Stewart, concerned citizens and entrepreneurs of Pakenham, began buying and updating old homes and converting other unused buildings into suitable accommodation. Some of the old houses and establishments (one an abandoned hotel) were remodelled and renovated into modern apartments. This resulted in approximately 25 one and two bedroom apartments and a medical building. A stone ruin was restored and now is used as a conference centre with a capacity of close to 2,000.

This program inspired other villagers to repair their properties with the result that Pakenham took on a rejuvenated appearance.

The project begun by Mr. & Mrs. Stewart provided accommodation for senior citizens and young people starting up, facilities for a medical team, and acted as an example for the rest of the community.

The project has kindled a new spirit of pride in the village citizens. The project was organized, financed and is being managed on a private basis entirely. The conference centre is managed by Stewart House Incorporated, a non-profit church sponsored group.

For further information contact:

Mr. & Mrs. R.A. Stewart  
Box 39  
Pakenham, Ontario  
K0A 2X0

OR

Mr. H. Brodmann  
(613) 624-5430

### **Progress for Native Peoples' Housing**

An alternative to the juvenile correctional school has been established by Native People of Sudbury Development Corporation.

The corporation first realized the need for a group home when statistics showed the high proportion of native juveniles in training schools. The group home is staffed by native persons and appears to be a much more conducive atmosphere for rehabilitation, growth and change for the native youths.

The project was largely financed through the Ministry of Correctional Services and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. However the group home has received full support and co-operation from native communities and the Indian-Eskimo Friendship Centre. The home was conceived in November 1974 and opened only four months afterwards in April 1975.

The Native Development Corporation is continuing to seek new ways to help native people coming from reserves and rural areas to adjust to city life in Sudbury.

At present they have launched a program to make it easier for urban native people to rent and purchase suitable housing.

For further information contact:

Mr. R.P. Auger  
Native People of Sudbury  
Development Corporation  
68 Xavier Street  
Sudbury, Ontario  
P3G 2E9  
(705) 674-9996

### **A Pleasant Corner in Carp**

On the highway leading into Carp, a large triangle of land was a graveyard for rusting car parts and litter. The Huntley Women's Institute adopted as their Centennial project a plan to make the entrance into town somehow more welcoming. The initial task of removing the debris and levelling the land was accomplished with the help of Department of Highways and the town council. After receiving a few truck loads of top soil, the Women's Institute planted tulip bulbs, polished the old pump and made two paths from patio blocks leading in from the highway on either side. The following spring the Department of Highways provided two flowering crab trees and numerous conifers. The flowerbeds are arranged to display blooms at every turn of the season.

A flag pole, bearing our Canadian emblem, occupies the center of this pleasant space.

In contrast to the original condition of this corner the present gateway into Carp is congenial sight.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Ruth Craig  
R.R.1  
Carp, Ontario  
(613) 839-5624

### **Pickering Museum Fosters Pride in Local Heritage**

The residents of Pickering originally formed the Pickering Historical Society and subsequently the Pickering Museum Board was formed to co-ordinate the development and the operation of the museum.

The main thrust for this project came from the citizens themselves with assistance and backing from the Kiwanis Club and the municipal council.

The organization and management was provided by the Pickering Historical Society and the Pickering Museum Board.

Initial financial assistance came from local government. In 1967 the Museum received further assistance from the federal and provincial governments as a Centennial project and it has since raised funds through admissions and a yearly grant from the municipal council and provincial government.

The museum has inspired pride in the citizens in making them aware of their history and heritage and has also helped them understand the importance of preserving this heritage.

The museum has proved especially beneficial to the school children of the Pickering area. The project was begun in 1959 with considerable expansion and development in 1967.

For further information contact.

J.P. Myslik  
Pickering Municipal Office  
1710 Kingston Road  
Pickering, Ontario  
L1V 1C7  
(416) 839-5121 or 294-5515

### **An Answer to Traffic Pollution Through the Mississauga Bicycle Path Study**

The advantages of cycling are many. The increasing usage of bicycles is indicative of people's concern for the environment and personal well-being. Mississauga initiated a study to determine the feasibility of having inter-connecting pathways for cyclists.

On July 6, 1972 a committee of the Mississauga Planning Department met to organize a conference on the promotion of cycling for leisure and necessary transportation. Then in January 1973 the council of Peel County resolved in principle to provide for bicycle facilities in the design of future roads.

Shortly thereafter, on April 25, 1973, a cycling meeting was held which included members of the Canadian Cycling Association, Pollution Probe, Conservation Authority, and Physical Fitness Committee. The purpose of the meeting was to initiate a program to promote cycling

and make citizens aware of the various aspects of cycling: recreation, sport, safety etc.

This led to the formation of the Bicycle Path Committee which undertook the study for the town of Mississauga.

Bicycle paths have been laid out within the town's park systems, and linking residential districts to small plazas, schools and facilities. Bicycle paths are now part of the City's Official Plan.

For further information contact:

E.M. Halliday  
City of Mississauga  
1 City Centre Drive,  
Mississauga, Ontario  
(416) 279-7600

### **Credit Counselling a Successful Service in Arnprior**

A group of volunteers from housewives to industry executives formed the Missiwaska Social Planning Council in Arnprior in June 1973.

Before this time, social services were not available in the community. Of the 21 social needs identified in the community and later met by the council, the credit counselling service has been one of the most successful.

A person who is overburdened financially can approach the council for assistance.

The client is given constructive advice and shown how to cut costs. A realistic budget is set up and expected to be adhered to with follow-up counselling advised.

There are instances in which referrals to other agencies such as Children's Aid Society and Ontario Housing are made.

The service emphasizes educational programs in high school and pre-marital courses to teach people how to avoid financial difficulties.

The funding was received through a provincial government grant for 60 per cent of the operational costs with the manager of a local finance company offering to assist with the remainder.

The Family and Children Services of Renfrew County provided office space free of charge.

Mrs. Leona Battisten operated the office on a voluntary basis from May 30 to December 1, 1975.

Clients receiving the counselling have voiced their gratitude in follow-up visits; as well, merchants who considered the debts uncollectable have expressed appreciation.

The many referrals from churches, agencies and industry seem to indicate respect and recognition of the service in the community.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Marilyn Blay  
Credit Counselling Committee  
Box 355  
Arnprior, Ontario  
(613) 623-3173



## Cambridge — Home of Fado

Approximately one-sixth of the population of Cambridge is Portuguese. Through the financial assistance of the Rotary Club the Portuguese community presented a one day festival in September 1975 to illustrate their culture and heritage. Booths displaying Portuguese costuming and crafts such as wood-working and pottery were set up in the park for local residents to view at a leisurely pace. Traditional Portuguese cooking could be sampled in an adjacent centre. In the evening a performance of folk dancing and the Portuguese Fado singers was presented at Fado House for a small admission fee. The traditional Fado singers are highly skilled and trained to tell a bittersweet tale through their melodic ballads. The organizing committee was comprised of local citizens, Rotary Club members, representatives from the Community Services Department and members of Portuguese clubs. The City of Cambridge supplied facilities, personnel and equipment.

It is hoped that the Fado Festival will become a yearly cultural event as it was extensively attended and enjoyed by the citizens of Cambridge.

For further information contact:

Dr. Bert Grapes  
Rotary Club of Galt  
Cambridge "G", Ontario.

OR

Mr. Art Kelly  
(519) 623-3070

## A Fifteen Mile Drive to Medical Centre No Longer Necessary

For 10 years the citizens of Grand Valley were without medical or dental services. The 15 mile drive necessary to visit a doctor was especially difficult for senior citizens. Several town citizens launched a campaign to fund a much-needed medical centre. An enterprising resident made and raffled a bedspread as her donation, while a local contractor and business supplied the service piping free of charge. A total of \$4,500 in donations came from the community and surrounding townships. The remaining funds needed were donated by Bickel Foundation, the Royal Bank, and the Lions Club.

The first public meeting was held November 1, 1972 and the centre was opened autumn of 1973 with a doctor and a dentist in residence.

The citizens of Grand Valley have established a medical centre, through determination and the desire that all residents have this essential care accessible.

For further information contact:

Chairman of the Board  
Grand Valley and District  
Medical Dental Centre  
Grand Valley, Ontario  
L0N 1R0

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The need for a medical centre for Thamesville was realized in 1973 by residents of the community. Citizens formed a non-profit, incorporated organization to manage and locate funds for the construction of the required centre. A fund-raising

dance and door-to-door canvassing were methods used to encourage donations. Through citizen effort, Thamesville now is a medically serviced area with a modern centre and a doctor in residence.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Violet R. Harry  
Club-Treasurer  
Box 280  
Thamesville, Ontario

### **Citizens Save Canada's Champs-Elysees**

Vanisttart Avenue in Woodstock is known by many as Canada's Champs-Elysees. It is an avenue with lovely homes and a double row of stately maple trees.

In November 1971 the planned widening of the avenue posed the problem of destroying the maples and making the once lovely residential street a thoroughfare. The city of Woodstock had applied to the Ontario Municipal Board for approval of the reconstruction of the roadway.

In reaction to these plans citizens formed the Vanisttart Area Association to appeal to the city council and then went to hearings before the Ontario Municipal Board, to oppose the city in the issue.

Eventually Vanisttart Area Association was victorious. Since then, city council has accepted the policy of not widening arterial streets automatically but instead considering each street on its own merits. The pre-

vious city policy of not replanting trees has been reversed with much replanting already completed.

The Association has now been incorporated as a citizen participation group and exists to monitor future problems and issues arising in Woodstock. Each of the hundred members of the Association paid a small membership fee with a few members contributing generously to raise funds to incorporate the Association and pay the legal fees for hearings with the Ontario Municipal Board.

For further information contact:

Mr. George Calder  
133 Vanisttart Avenue  
Woodstock, Ontario

### **Beautification Award Program in Aurora**

The Banner, local newspaper of Aurora, offers an annual award to residential, commercial or industrial properties for the attractive landscaping and maintenance of their premises.

The judging committee includes representatives of municipal government and community groups such as the Horticultural Society and Real Estate Board, local architects and interested private citizens.

The Banner finances the award, an ornamental lawn sign in the form of a trillium and publicizes the competition.

This award shows the interest and pride the citizens of Aurora take in their community's appearance.

For further information contact:

K.B. Rodger  
Clerk Administrator  
Town of Aurora  
27 Yonge Street  
Aurora, Ontario

### **Centre Working Toward Equitable Society**

The Cross-Cultural Communication Centre has existed in Toronto since the summer of 1972. It was started by a group of volunteers who wanted to set up a resource centre to house audio-visual and printed materials dealing with third world countries and international development issues.

The C.C.C.C. is one of a network of organizations similar in origins based in most major cities in Canada. The centre in Toronto acts as a resource centre for the different cultural groups represented in the city and the issues of concern to them, and about the history, culture and present situation of their countries of origin.

The centre is pursuing its aim for an equitable multicultural society in Canada through such programs as teacher education, curriculum development and classroom presentation, orientation programs for C.U.S.O. volunteers, an adult education centre, and through the open invitation for people to drop into the centre just to talk. The centre realizes the problems of immigrants and is working to lessen their burden and inform the rest of society of their needs and fears.

The centre is financed through provincial and federal grants, donations and fees for services.

For further information contact:

Barb Thomas  
Cross Cultural Communication  
Centre  
1079 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M6H 1M5  
(416) 537-2222

### **Victoria Playhouse Revived to Former Use**

Victoria Playhouse Petrolia is a non-profit foundation established by local citizens early in 1972. The purpose of the organization was the restoration of Victoria Hall (a 19th century Victorian opera house on the second floor of the municipal buildings) to its former dignity and use as a community centre for Petrolia and surrounding Lambton County.

To date, Victoria Playhouse Petrolia has been funded by the town of Petrolia, the Ontario Arts Council, Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Royal Trust Company and generous local citizens.

Many formal and informal groups have formed as a result of the restoration of the playhouse. They include Victoria Arts and Crafts Council, Petrolia Players, a children's and an adult choir. Over 100 professional performances have been given during the past three years at Victoria Hall.





Victoria Hall is a two-storey buff-coloured brick building with an impressive clock tower which is visible for miles.

Its prominent position in the center of town and its attractive architectural style reflect the spirit in which it was raised and its significance within the community.

For further information contact:

Mr. Ron Baker  
Victoria Playhouse  
420 King Street  
Petrolia, Ontario  
(519) 882-0221

### **Halfway House in Thunder Bay**

Kairo's Community Resource Centre in Thunder Bay supports prisoners through the difficult transitional period before re-entering society. The Centre is an intermediary step between prison and society for men who are willing to work or attend school while returning to the centre at night.

Two concerned sisters of the Order of St. Joseph perceived the need for such a centre and with the help of nine citizens formed the board of directors of a non-profit corporation to manage the project. Through a contract with the Ministry of Correctional Services and a loan from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation a house was purchased and renovated and staff hired for this new community resource centre. The labour during renovations came from residents of the Thunder Bay Correctional and Adult Training Centre.

It is now managed by the two sisters and a lay couple.

The conceptual stages were begun in March 1975 with Kairo's Community Resource Centre opening January 1976.

The halfway house enables prisoners to make friends and earn money before entering the mainstream of community life.

For further information contact:

Mr. Wm. Rankin  
Kairo's Community Resource Centre  
231 Cameron Street  
Thunder Bay, 5, Ontario  
(807) 622-7261

### **Cottagers Stop Overdevelopment of a Muskoka Island**

The Royal Muskoka Island Association was formed to obtain and salvage control over lands that greatly affected the property values of new lot owners on the island.

There was a threat that developers would sell off land in the centre of the island and adversely affect the established lakeside lots.

Elected directors and appointed officers were drawn from concerned cottage owners. Nominal membership fees were charged to provide operating funds for taxes, insurance and legal fees.

One large piece of land which once was a golf course was purchased by the Royal Muskoka Island Association for the mutual benefit of all the cottage owners. This was financed

through voluntary donations from the cottage owners; however, the land purchased benefits more than just those who contributed.

Mr. Norman P. Ellison has been the organizer and president of the association from its inception in 1963.

The land purchased in the internal area of the island provides a recreational park and upholds the value of the shore line properties. Control by those persons directly concerned prevents secondary development in the already densely populated area.

For further information contact.

Mr. Norman P. Ellison  
118 Underhill Drive  
Don Mills, Ontario  
M3H 2K2  
(416) 444-9530

### **Forest Seniors Active**

Each Monday afternoon since late 1974, senior citizens have met at the Forest Arena for pot-luck dinner.

The admission is 25 cents each with the proceeds going to the acquisition and maintenance of a park just north of the senior citizens home.

After lunch, entertainment is organized or the citizens play various card games. Also, crafts have been introduced resulting in two quilts being raffled off with the proceeds going to the park fund. The senior citizens planted 1000 trees in the spring of 1975 and in the autumn a wide selection of bulbs.

The citizens received a provincial government grants to help pay for

the reclamation of the land for the park.

Retired residents of Forest still actively contribute to their community.

For further information contact:

Miss L. Bernice Rawlings  
Box 7  
Forest, Ontario  
N0N 1J0  
(519) 873-2693

### **Lakefront Owners Association Believes In Personal Responsibility**

The Lakefront Owners Association represents a volunteer citizens group which is working to preserve and protect the shorelines of Lake Ontario.

The Association was formed in 1964 to oppose metropolitan Toronto's proposal to dump garbage into the lake.

The Association has established a research library of environmental information, a regular newsletter keeping members informed and a network of citizens who report abuses of the lake or shoreline.

At least two members attend planning meetings of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the International Joint Commission to keep abreast of future plans concerning the lakefront.

The Lakefront Owners Association feels that citizens must take

personal responsibility to protect our environment.

For further information contact:  
Mr. D. Martin  
Lakefront Owners Association  
Box 166  
Toronto, Ontario  
(416) 259-0663

### **Old C.N.R. Station Saved**

The old C.N.R. train station at Fort Erie was to be demolished.

Alarmed by this proposal the municipality and citizens of the area set out to do something about it.

Through government grants and private funding the municipality was able to preserve the old station and acquire an engine and a caboose. Local citizens donated time and local industry, materials for the restoration. Alderman Ken Rayner was instrumental in managing the entire project. The project was begun in the autumn of 1973 and is finished and on display.

The 6218 Railroad Museum now has a prominent place in the community and draws new visitors each year to the area.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Ken Rayner  
Town Hall  
200 Jarvis Street  
Fort Erie, Ontario  
(416) 871-1600

### **Civics And Education Combined Into One Centre**

Before the Essex County Civic and Education centre was built in 1973

the municipal administrative offices were located in one corner of the county, the Board of Education was housed in portable classrooms elsewhere and the county library was situated yet another 18 miles away. Since all three offices have related functions it was decided that it would be less confusing and frustrating and more convenient for the taxpayer if all were located in one place.

Besides the obvious advantages of such a combination, 16 per cent less area is required than if the offices were housed in separate buildings. Subsequently, the amount of energy for light and heat is less, the amount of materials used in construction is less, as is the use of land reduced. The planned use of the facilities goes beyond simply office space. Recreational and community projects, arts and crafts displays, research projects in the library and a "Meals-on-Wheels" program for senior citizens are to be included on the list of activities co-ordinated from the centre.

In Essex County there is truly a civic and education centre.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Peter A. Cramp  
Box 1570  
360 Fairview Avenue West  
Essex, Ontario  
N0R 1E0  
(519) 776-6441

## **Block Parents Protect**

A group of mothers became concerned about the vulnerability of children unattended in playgrounds or unescorted on the way to school. Due to their initiative there is now an active "Block Parent" organization in Sarnia neighbourhoods. With the co-operation of the police department and the schools, applicants are screened. After being approved the citizens are given signs easily recognized by children, to be placed in a clearly visible window. The main duty of "Block Parents" is to be alert and available should a child need the comfort or advice of a trusted adult.

The Block Parent will pinpoint the child's problem and if necessary notify the proper authorities. He or she is also expected to assist in obtaining descriptions of suspected individuals and vehicles.

Perhaps through rekindling the old neighbourhood atmosphere the risk of the streets can be lessened for both child and adult.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Sandy Waters  
Block Parent Plan  
1550 Mallah Drive  
Sarnia, Ontario  
(519) 542-4653

## **Port Hope Citizens Choose Lighting**

Port Hope's essentially mid-19th century main street architecture is valuable to Ontario. The Port Hope Consortium, a group of concerned

citizens representing the local Architectural Conservancy, Historical Society, Horticultural Society, Art Guild, Agricultural Society, Old Tyme Christmas Committee, Chamber of Commerce and Business Associates feels that modern lighting and overhead wiring would be incompatible to the atmosphere of Port Hope streets.

Through Consortium efforts \$8,000 has been collected from the community to install duct work lighting at a nine foot level. The town council pledged \$4,000 while the other half was matched through local canvassing and the Architectural Conservancy and Old Tyme Christmas Committee.

A citizen vote was conducted as to whether modern lighting or nostalgic light standards were preferred.

Voting was active with the majority of the citizens choosing the nostalgic variety. Currently, three different standards of lighting have been ordered to be temporarily placed in the downtown area where citizens again will participate in selecting a final choice.

The project began in May 1975 with the first stage ending in September 1975. The second stage continues actively.

For further information contact:

Joan Frederickson  
c/o Crest Hardware  
102 Walton Street  
Port Hope, Ontario



## **Citizens' Suggestions Heard By Public Transit**

The citizens of Peterborough were indicating their dissatisfaction with the public transit system by simply not using it as frequently.

Border Transit Limited, a private non-profit company in co-operation with the Municipal Office launched a survey in 1973 to determine the reasons. The citizens responded to the survey by suggesting refinements in the routing and scheduling of the buses.

A new indoor bus depot was incorporated into a joint public transit terminal and parking complex.

The public transit system in Peterborough has been upgraded to meet the growing needs of an active Ontario city.

For further information contact:  
General Manager  
Border Transit Limited  
Burnham Street  
Peterborough, Ontario

## **Festival Opening For 70-Mile Trail**

The Conservance of Natural Huronia Association has worked diligently to preserve and make available to the public a 70-mile trail from Collingwood to Victoria Harbour. The trail is constructed so the walkers can enjoy sections of the trail rather than having to hike its entire length at one time.

Two separate grants from the federal government supplied the bulk of

the money needed to build the trail. Construction of the trail provided work for six area men under the special winter works program.

For the opening-day festivities the community donated time and talent. The local businessmen shared the cost for a half-page announcement in the local newspaper. The Kiwanis club supplied the piano and podium. Planks for the stage were supplied by a local lumberyard while Molsons sent their van to supply power for the microphones.

The first official step on the trail was taken by Mr. Alfie Smith, a 100-year-old lifetime resident of Collingwood.

Mrs. Luci Henderson, the key figure behind C.O.N.H.A., is still seeking the help of the hikers and citizens using the trail to police and help maintain the trail.

For further information contact:  
Mrs. Luci Henderson  
Box 172  
Collingwood, Ontario  
L9Y 3Z5  
(705) 445-6947

## **A Small Donated Park Is A Pleasant Place To Stop In Harriston**

A local citizen donated the use of a large plot of land to the Harriston Horticultural Society in 1954.

The Making Horticultural Park is situated beside the Maitland River. Surrounding the park is a hedge

which was planted in 1954; inside are numerous flowering plants, trees and shrubs.

The local municipal office gave a yearly grant to the Horticultural Society to cover cost of seeds, plants etc. with the Society supplying the work force to maintain the park.

During the spring and summer, shoppers can be seen resting amidst their parcels or travellers stopping to picnic at the facilities offered.

In place of the once overgrown lot, there now is a beauty spot for all citizens of Harriston to admire or enjoy.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Janet Grice  
39 Mark Lane  
Harriston, Ontario  
(519) 338-3747

### **A Nationally Renowned Festival — The Brainchild Of Small Town Citizen**

In 1953, Tom Patterson called for an open air theatre to hold plays within the town that is Canada's namesake of Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford. Behind the inspiration and determination of Tom Patterson, local citizens volunteered to work around-the-clock to produce a success.

The project instilled a feeling of pride and created employment at a time when the main industrial employer, the Canadian National Railways, was phasing out its operations in Stratford.

Since its inception, the Stratford Festival has become an integral part of the city's life, and has brought world wide recognition to the community. The charm and beauty of Stratford provides an appropriate setting for superb theatre.

The many thousands of visitors each year have spurred the development of fine hotels and motels, excellent dining facilities and shops.

Since 1953 over 38 new industries have located in Stratford. More important than the economic benefit of the Festival, is the sense of civic pride which has grown up around this unique achievement.

The festival has been aided by federal and provincial government assistance as well as through many individual and corporate donations. Since 1953 over \$500,000 have been donated from the local community. In spite of the festival's national importance, numerous local citizens still sit on the board of governors.

For further information contact:  
Stratford Festival Foundation of  
Canada  
55 Queen Street  
Stratford, Ontario

### **Chinese Home For The Aged—A Realized Dream**

The Mon Sheong Foundation in Toronto came into existence informally in 1964 and was incorporated in 1965. At that time the foundation realized the need for a home for the

aged in the Chinese community and adopted the idea as their main project.

Approximately \$300,000 was raised to buy the property through raffles, lotteries and charity dances. As well, grants were received from the metropolitan and provincial governments with the balance covered by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The Mon Sheong Home for the Aged was a dream realized finally in 1975. The senior citizens residing in the Home are enjoying the companionship of kindred people, the pleasant modern surroundings and particularly the Chinese food and environment. Facilities are provided for young people to meet and get involved with the elderly through recreational programs. The Home's location in the new Chinatown area provides a focal point for some of the activities in the Chinese Community.

For further information contact:  
Mr. D.F. Quan  
887 Islington Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M8Z 4N9  
(416) 255-8501

### **Senior Citizens Responsible For Renovated Community Hall**

The Huntley Friendship Club formed in 1974 is comprised of senior citizens in Carp and surrounding district.

Shortly after their organization the search for a hall began. The Carp

Memorial Hall was available but needed extensive renovations. A committee of 10 was chosen from the club to find the necessary funding and manage the renovations.

The federal and provincial governments allocated money through grants, while furniture, lighting and utensils were donated from local residents.

The meeting hall has new kitchen facilities, a games room and conference hall, and is available to the entire community. However, the senior citizens of Carp use the hall extensively as a place to gather for recreation and companionship.

They are responsible for and have worked diligently to provide Carp with this centre.

For further information contact:  
Huntley Friendship Club  
Carp, Ontario.

### **Civic Garden Centre For Hobbyist Or Professional**

The Civic Garden Centre in Toronto was established in 1958 through the active pursuit of Mrs. James A. Gardner. The aims of the Garden Club are to provide information and instruction on gardening, horticulture, landscape architecture and conservation in a form useful to homeowners and apartment dwellers. The club now has a director and staff of five with day and evening programs, exhibits and courses seven days a week.

A library and book shop on the subject of gardening etc. are housed in the centre at Edwards Gardens. A communications magazine "Trellis" is circulated throughout the province six times a year. There is a small yearly fee with membership increasing almost to capacity. The junior garden clubs have already reached the maximum number the centre is able to accommodate.

The citizens of metropolitan Toronto have established the Civic Garden Centre as a source of technical information for the hobbyist to professional gardener.

For further information contact:

Mrs. James A. Gardner  
110 North Drive  
Islington, Ontario  
M9A 4R2  
(416) 231-3418  
Or  
Civic Garden Centre  
(416) 445-1552

### **Volunteer Search And Rescue Unit In Northern Community**

In the dense wilderness surrounding Fort Frances one can easily become disoriented and lost within a few hours. After one such mishap the citizens realized they were not fully equipped or knowledgeable about search and rescue techniques. The local Lions Club assisted with funds to organize a training course.

An expert from Thunder Bay headed a weekend workshop in rescue operations. Committees comprised of Lions Club members were designated responsible for directing lo-

gistical support, (communications, food, transportation) during an actual rescue. The Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Hydro, Rusty Myers Flying Service and a pulp and paper company have pledged the use of equipment and personnel in the event of a search.

Since the winter of 1973-74 the unit has operated a search with immediate success and stands ready for any emergency.

For further information contact:

Glenn E. Treftlin  
General Delivery  
Devlin, Ontario  
(807) 486-3307

### **Mall Brings Life Back To Oakville Business Section**

The Oakville Mall was conceived with the intention of encouraging the citizens of Oakville to make more use of their central business section.

The town of Oakville contacted citizens to supply management and control of the budget for the mall.

Each merchant put on a special display or sidewalk sale while some participated in the entertainment section with Oakville residents. The shows were scheduled for times when there would be maximum attendance at the mall.

Large planters filled with flowers, trees and shrubbery created a park-like atmosphere. Picnic tables and sun shades were placed at conven-



ient spots along the mall sidewalk. This event extended over a 27 day period in June and July 1975.

The downtown area of Oakville is well-known as a charming shopping district. The Mall serves to remind and encourage the citizens of Oakville to preserve and support this important section of their town.

For further information contact:

Mr. G.C. Reade  
Town of Oakville  
1225 Trafalgar Road  
Oakville, Ontario

### **Mennonite Community Aids Other Settlements**

The organization of the Relief Sale by the Mennonite Community has become an annual happening for the entire Waterloo area. It is a day for families to spend together in a rural setting when a festival spirit pervades the atmosphere.

The sale is so popular that people from across the province and northern United States attend. Approximately 5,000 persons representing 44 Mennonite congregations are involved in the organization and operation of the sale and in donating articles.

Business interests donate merchandise for the sale, advertising and promotion, and assist in other ways; e.g., transportation of goods. The regional police force provides security and traffic control and the Wilmot township council makes the facilities available. The general com-

munity attends the sale and accounts for the majority of purchases.

The Relief Sale has resulted in increasingly large financial proceeds from \$31,700 in 1967 to \$154,800 in 1975 being turned over to the Mennonite Central Committee mainly for foreign relief. In 1974, the victims of the Grand River flooding in the Waterloo Region received \$22,500 from the Mennonite Central Committee. The Mennonite community's sense of pride and identity has been confirmed and strengthened through the sale. Preparing for the sale has stimulated the men and women in local communities to highly creative endeavours in the traditional Mennonite arts and crafts. It has provided an opportunity for large-scale inter-Mennonite co-operation on a common enterprise, and may be thought of as a modern substitute for the barn-raising and husking bees of an earlier day. In this way the Mennonite traditions and culture are preserved.

Since the first sale in the spring of 1967 this has been an annual event held on the last Saturday in May.

For further information contact:  
Mennonite Central Committee  
50 Kent Street  
Kitchener, Ontario

### **Small Town Recycles**

Even a small community such as Mitchell, can support a glass recycling program. The Man's Environment Club was formed to involve

the students of a local high school in environmental concerns. The Mitchell cubs and scouts assist the students in collection once a month while 15 students sort and crush the glass. Once a year the barrels of crushed glass are transported to nearby Stratford to be processed with the assistance of two local businesses.

The project has been able to perpetuate itself since it began in 1974 through the money received from the sale of the recycled glass.

The project has succeeded in increasing environmental awareness and proving that a small community can sustain a recycling program.

For further information contact:

J.R. Gaylor  
Science Department  
Mitchell High School  
Mitchell, Ontario

### **Library Grows From Small Beginnings**

Most small communities feel the need for a library. Ancaster, now has a library with films, slides, large reference section and all the other amenities of a large urban library.

However, the library facilities in Ancaster were not always so up-to-date. In 1951 a concerned citizen, Mrs. Kirton, along with volunteers from the Alexander Women's Institute initiated the beginnings of the library on the platform of the town hall. One afternoon and one evening a week eventually expanded to a full-time operation.

A unit of 40 books was rented from Wentworth County Library with donations of books and funds encouraged from the community for a permanent collection. For a period of 16 years until 1967 when the library became a branch of Wentworth County Library, the original library was staffed by Mrs. Kirton and her other volunteers.

If it had not been for the volunteers from the community the small original library would never have begun and subsequently may never have grown into the modern full-fledged library it is in Ancaster today.

For further information contact:

Mr. Lloyd Hayden  
Town Clerk  
300 Wilson Street East  
Ancaster, Ontario

### **Citizens Manage Their Own Recreation In Large City**

The citizens of Oshawa work diligently to provide recreational and sports activities. Over 15 clubhouses have been built in neighbourhood parks as meeting headquarters for individual neighbourhood social activities and programs. The money for the clubhouses was raised through donations, bingos, dances and sales.

Local citizen volunteers administer sports programs for both winter and summer for thousands of children in the various neighbourhoods of Oshawa.

For over 30 years now organization of social, recreation and sports has been functioning at an autonomous citizen-neighbourhood level in the city of Oshawa.

For further information contact:

Mr. C. Mason  
C.C.N.A.  
612 Funucane Street  
Oshawa, Ontario  
(416) 725-4393

### **Senior Citizens Home In The Mainstream**

One of the greatest fears of an aging person is that of being left out of the mainstream of community and family life. Port Hope has remedied that problem by building a 24-unit senior citizens home in the heart of the old downtown.

The home forms part of the Town Square off Memorial Park. Next door is the Senior Citizens Hall, and opposite is the children's playground. The home overlooks the flower garden in the park, the water fountain, the band shell, the "1851" vintage Town Hall, the original Carnegie Library and the war memorial. From the porch or front lawn senior citizens can have an unobstructed view of children at play, fishermen on the lake, or bird lovers feeding the ducks. It is without a doubt, a perfect location for such a housing project.

This places the senior citizens where the action is. Life continually flows by before them and they feel a part of it. The location cuts down virtually all need for costly taxis or

public transit as the shopping area, and library are right there. The units require little or no parking space although the downtown location encourages friends and relatives to drop in frequently while they are shopping.

The grass and flower beds in the park are always neatly kept. There are no sidewalks to shovel.

Through citizen Tommy Dale and the mayor of Port Hope a petition by senior citizens was drawn up and presented to the Ontario Housing Corporation.

Although the property was valued at a much higher price, the town of Port Hope relinquished the property for \$4,000 the original price paid for the old post office there before.

The negotiations began in 1970 with the building being occupied by mid-1972.

For further information contact:

Mr. Michael Wladyka  
Manager, Branch 30  
Royal Canadian Legion  
Port Hope, Ontario

### **A Statistical Handbook**

Downsview-Weston Action Committee compiled a resource handbook of statistical information in their community. The aim of the D.W.A.C. handbook is to provide accurate documentation which would aid planning to be more responsive to the needs and wants of the D.W.A.C. community.

The community has a high density population with increasing numbers of new Canadians filtering in at a steady rate; therefore overcrowding of schools, traffic problems and continual highrise construction results.

The Secretary of State — Canadian Citizen Branch granted money to hire two post-secondary students to research the project. The North York Board of Education provided a portable classroom to house the project and information for the study. Residents provided the concept and follow-up support and direction.

The handbook was published in August 1975. The project was unique in that this type of self-study had never been carried out before.

For further information and facts contact:

Timothy Yip  
#1322  
2 Assiniboine Rd.  
Downsview, Ontario  
M3J 1L1  
(416) 661-6947

### **Bruce Trail Association Creates Hiking Path As An Antidote For City Living**

Everyone likes to walk in the country. A volunteer organization, the Bruce Trail Association, perceived this need and sought to build the Bruce Trail. The Association maintains the trail and promotes hiking, cross-country skiing and snow shoeing.

The Trail stretches for 430 miles with thousands of members and

nonmembers using the trail yearly. It has acted as a spur for dozens of other long distance hiking trails in various parts of Canada based on the Bruce Trail formula. The Ontario Trails Council has been formed to help categorize the various uses of trails; e.g., horseback riding, bicycle, hiking, snowmobiling, and canoeing.

The Bruce Trail Association finances the publicity and maintenance for the Trail through membership dues and donations. All work is done on a voluntary basis.

The Association has drawn attention to the Niagara Escarpment as an area of outstanding beauty that should be preserved for public usage.

For further information contact:

R.N. Lawes  
Bruce Trail Association  
33 Hardale Crescent  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8T 1X7  
(416) 385-9183

### **Neighbourhood Spirit In Suburbia**

In the sprawling suburb of Don Mills an active community group provides residents with opportunities to meet neighbours and have fun.

The Ranchdale-Annunciation Community Association is housed in the two schools from which it derives its name. Funding is received from voluntary donations and small admission charges for classes in arts and crafts, organized sports and fairs.



In the fall, winter and spring, the association offers 10-week sessions in sports, crafts and general interest classes.

A seasonal newsletter is printed and circulated by an elected committee informing citizens in advance of planned programs and events. Annual festivities organized by the active citizens committee include a Winter Carnival and Mayfair with craft displays, races and contests.

The Ranchdale-Annunciation Community Association provides low cost recreation within walking distance of most homes. For this the citizens can thank an active community association.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Carolyn Swinson  
34 Overbank Crescent  
Don Mills, Ontario  
M3A 1W2  
(416) 449-0922

### **Goderich Honours Its Heritage**

The beautiful old Gaol Complex (circa 1839-40) in Goderich was threatened with demolition to make room for a new building. The citizens in the area and the Huron Historic Jail Board became irate at such a proposal.

The fight between the citizens protest groups and the county resulted in the preservation of this lovely old complex and the establishment of a successful tourist and cultural centre. The architecture of the Gaol is unique in North America as well

as being significant in the history of the area.

The Gaol is mostly self-sustaining through its operation as a tourist facility; however, the Ministry of Culture and Recreation of the Province of Ontario provides a grant to defray a portion of the operational expenses. A fund-raising drive for restoration was launched in the fall of 1975 and raised \$3,000 from the community. The County of Huron, the Town of Goderich and a number of private citizens have formed a board to administer the complex.

Architecturally the complex is a museum but the courtyards and offices are still used for many community events. It has housed a theatre and farmers' market and served as a meeting place for citizens groups.

The Gaol Complex may be historically significant but it is not just antiquated decoration. It is still very much a part of the everyday community life in Goderich.

For further information contact:

Mr. Paul Carroll  
Huron Historic Gaol  
196 Wilson Street  
Goderich, Ontario  
(519) 524-9189

### **Community Newspapers Meeting The Needs of Citizens**

Ward Seven in metropolitan Toronto is showing the maturity and stability of their community by creating and sustaining Seven News. When a small community undertakes and supports an ongoing community



newspaper, this indicates the constant organization and concern of the citizens.

The first Seven News was published June 1970 and continues a bi-weekly distribution to every household in Ward 7 free of charge.

Citizens of Ward 7 voiced the need for more basic information pertaining to the street, block and neighbourhood level, rather than the general information given by professional media.

The newspaper is created by the community on behalf of itself. The people of Ward 7 write the stories and articles and therefore the topics covered in Seven News are seen through the eyes of the people who live and/or work in the ward.

The paper has a circulation of 20,000 and serves the population of 80,000. It provides information on services and facilities available to the citizens as well as issues and problems and what is being done to solve them.

Day-to-day operation of the paper is through a paid managing editor and three or four full time staff members. Approximately 200 volunteers from the community are also involved in distributing and being involved with the content of each issue.

Financing is 45 per cent through paid advertising and the remainder from local fund raising and government grants.

For further information contact:

Norman G. Browne  
Seven News Incorporated  
265 Gerrard Street E.,  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5A 2G3  
(416) 920-8632

The North Renfrew Times is owned and published by the Deep River Community Association. It is unique in that the editorial board and editor are volunteers. Citizens submit articles and editorials while local businesses support the newspaper through advertising. The North Renfrew Times grew from one mimeographed sheet called the Deep River Digest into an extensive weekly publication through the interest and persistence of citizens. It is a community newspaper written and published for its citizens.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Doreen E. Parsons  
Deep River Community Association  
Box 310  
Deep River, Ontario  
K0J 1P0  
(613) 584-3373

### **Sioux Lookout Has Outdoor Recreation Centre**

Students from the ages of eight to 14 became very keen on outdoor recreation after participating in a summer program.

Under the organization of Mr. Howard Lockhart, the recreational director for Sioux Lookout, a site for a permanent outdoor recreation centre was located at Cedar Bay, 1½ miles from the centre of the town. The

new site at Cedar Bay is a wilderness area, with many trails and a sandy beach at the lake edge. There are now five wooden cabins erected on the site for winter and summer activities. The project is truly a co-operation of levels of government; a federal L.I.P. grant, the provincial Ministry of Natural Resources, the Dryden Board of education and local townspeople.

The L.I.P. grant covered the cost for the site and the wages for labour. The Ministry of Natural Resource for Ontario has vested the title of the property to the town of Sioux Lookout. Royal Canadian Legion members donated a large sum of money and labour.

The Abitibi Lumber Company Limited, Hudson volunteered the services of a tree farmer to transport logs to the construction site.

The Dryden Board of Education provided labour through a students vocational training program.

The Town of Sioux Lookout provided the equipment and maintenance free of charge. Citizens of Sioux Lookout donated windows for the cabins.

A number of people from the Murial Boyle Home for mentally retarded worked on the site on a volunteer basis.

The project was begun November 11, 1975 and is now available for cross-country skiers and for the upcoming summer recreation program for the students of Sioux Lookout.

For further information contact:

Mr. H.B. Lockhart  
Recreation Director  
Town of Sioux Lookout  
Box 158  
Sioux Lookout  
POV 2T0  
(807) 737-1994

### **Rideau Crafts — Source Of Income For Rural Residents**

In Leeds County, agriculture and tourism are the main sources of income. Rideau Crafts was formed in 1972 to supply area residents with a means of earning a living through the making and selling of crafts.

An initial study was set up through a Youth in Action grant to research early pioneer crafts, survey small villages and operate flea markets as outlets for crafts. The findings of the study convinced the citizens to pursue their organization.

With the advice and support of Ministry of Community and Social Services and St. Lawrence College (Brockville Campus), the citizens were able to attend workshops, take trips to view other craft exhibits and employ area teachers to teach courses in woodworking, glass blowing and other crafts.

The organization has 125 members who form committees to manage the newsletter and the markets. Two large markets are held, one before Christmas and one in early spring as well as various smaller ones throughout the summer. There the local craftsmen can get a reasonable return for their work and



tourists to the area can find something different to purchase.

For further information contact:

Mary Warren  
R.R. 1  
Elgin, Ontario  
K0G 1E0  
(613) 359-5468

A craft ark was established in the community centre in Mono Mills through the insight of 10 local women. A two-room school was scheduled for demolition while the community still did not have a community centre. Through a draft presented by these local women to the town of Caledon an agreement was reached whereby the town designated the property for use as a community centre for Mono Mills. The Craft Ark, as it is called, has programs in ceramics, weaving, needlework, spinning and quilting, as well as a range of various activities to interest other citizens in the community. The proposal was presented in 1970 and within a few months the centre was opened.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Elizabeth Prebbles  
R.R. 1  
Caledon East, Ontario

### **Peel Museum Busy Recording Area's History**

The Peel Museum and Art Gallery are actively recording the history and culture of the area before extensive urbanization occurs and the past is forgotten.

The following activities are being carried out by the museum:

- photographing and cataloguing of houses and styles of architecture
- searching for Huron, Iroquois and Mississauga Indian artifacts in areas designated as having archaeological potential
- raising money for and/or moving historic buildings
- renovating old buildings to house small museums
- holding sessions in which individuals research historical topics and report on them
- encouraging local artists to show their work at monthly showings
- an Outreach Program

The Province of Ontario has a rich historical tapestry and Peel Museum and Art Gallery are ensuring that some history is being recorded.

For further information contact:

Wm. D. Barber  
Peel Museum and Art Gallery  
7 Wellington Street East  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6W 1X1

### **Athletic Chin-Ups In Linear Park**

Vita Parours is a jogging and exercise circuit located in Linear Park, Cambridge. It was a joint scheme among the Cambridge Board of Education, Separate School Board and Community Services Department.

The Rotary Club of Cambridge funded the project and the Ray of Hope Manor, a probation home for teenage boys, did the necessary construction.

The park consists of 20 exercise stations located an average of 100 yards apart. The course stretches 1.15 miles along the banks of the Speed and Grand Rivers.

The facilities are actively used by the schools in the area and by private citizens in the evenings and on the weekends.

For further information contact:

T. Smith  
Supervisor of Design  
14 Petty Place  
Box 963  
Cambridge, Ontario  
N1R 5X9

### **Community Teamwork Attracts Medical Team**

Victoria Harbour and District had been without a doctor or dentist for over 10 years. It seemed impossible to attract them to the village as there were no medical facilities available. However, this was soon remedied by the newly formed Lions Club which accepted the responsibility to raise money to build the badly needed medical centre.

Many organizations and clubs in the area donated very generously through projects organized to raise the funds. The Lions Club secured plans for the centre, obtained an interim loan and received help from a professional engineer who co-ordinated purchasing of materials and the actual construction process. A semi-retired contractor from the community volunteered to supervise the on site work. The centre was built on land owned by the village

with a small provincial government subsidy to cover what could not be raised by the community.

There is now a doctor, dentist and pharmacist located in Victoria Harbour providing services for all the citizens from in and around the area.

The project was begun in the fall of 1972 and the centre was opened December 1973.

For further information contact:

Mr. Theo Bernard  
Box 220  
William Street  
Victoria Harbour, Ontario  
(705) 686-7700

### **Anyone For Lawn Bowling?**

The Fellowship of Senior Citizens of Smithville, has recently completed the 10-lane bowling green of West Lincoln. The bowling green will provide recreation for not only senior citizens but all interested residents of the community and district.

The green was built on property leased to senior citizens for 20 years by the Smithville United Church.

With the assistance of a local contractor, community donations and grants from the federal New Horizons Program, the senior citizens were able to install the new bowling green and to help construct the new clubhouse.

The project was begun in the spring of 1974 and has just been completed this spring.

The senior citizens have created a recreational spot which they share with the entire community.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Vincent Lymburner  
Box 156  
121 West Street  
Smithville, Ontario

### **Ridgetown Gets Face Lift For Its Centennial Year**

Ridgetown citizens were completely involved in facelifting their town for the Centennial celebrations in 1975. The Ridgetown and District Historical Society was formed in October 1973 to implement the plans.

Speakers were brought from Doylestown, Pennsylvania where a similar project had been undertaken in 1964. The Ridgetown Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce members attended with the town council financing the travel expenses of the speakers. The people of Doylestown helped to encourage and direct the Ridgetown operation by relating their experiences during a similar undertaking.

Society executives then approached all merchants to enlist their support in what was to be called "Operation 74". All co-operated fully with the majority of renovations and restorations being completed for Centennial year celebrations.

The Rotary Club purchased Ridge House and restored it to its original 1875 state with furnishings and decorations added. Within the House there is a contemporary tea

room, and kitchen, with the offices and museum gallery available on loan to groups for a nominal fee.

The actual restoration was undertaken with the aid of a L.I.P. grant; however, the citizens contributed time and money.

A small group of 12 were the initial proponents responsible for all the organization, speaking engagements, meetings with officials and a good deal of clerical and manual labour. Business on main street Ridgetown has improved and the 1875 character has been restored. The Ridgetown and District Historical Society is still actively organizing classes in 19th century cooking, arts, and costuming.

For further information contact:  
Mr. R. Frederick Evans  
R.R. 1 Lakeshore Road  
Morpeth, Ontario  
N0P 1X0  
(519) 674-2066

### **Co-operative Answer To Housing Needs**

Citizens of Thunder Bay organized the Castlegreen Co-operative to overcome the many difficulties in finding suitable housing.

Sponsored by the Lakehead Social Planning Council, the citizens obtained assistance from churches, the Company of Young Canadians, a L.I.P. grant, individuals with backgrounds in municipal affairs, community organizations and professionals in housing and education.





Members were involved in all stages of the project's development such as investigating alternatives, researching information and making decisions about the housing they were generating for themselves.

A lease arrangement was negotiated with the City of Thunder Bay regarding the proposed land site and an agreement reached with C.M.H.C. for financial assistance. Members make a loan deposit of \$500 as a condition of residency.

The land site has been developed in accordance with members' expressed needs. A number of units have been designed and equipped for use by handicapped or senior citizens.

The mix of units reflects the requirements of different sized families and is expected to make the community demographically stable. Residents have both privacy and the company of neighbours in the cluster design.

The citizens of Castlegreen Co-operative have found a solution for today's housing needs.

For further information contact:  
Castlegreen Co-operative  
Incorporated  
Box 2952  
Thunder Bay "P", Ontario

### **Aquatic Sports Available In Two Northern Communities**

The Kinsman Club of Fort Frances, with the aid of local government, business and citizen funding have built a new olympic-sized swimming

pool, a squash court and an exercise room.

A board of appointed representatives consisting of municipal officials and Kinsmen supervised financing and construction.

The residents of Fort Frances interested in aquatic sports have the facilities available to fully enjoy athletic activities.

The project was started in the autumn of 1973 and finished November 1974.

For further information contact:  
Recreation and Community Centres  
Board  
720 Gillon Street  
Fort Frances, Ontario

Although Deep River is situated on the banks of the Ottawa River, the climate allows swimming only for a short time during the summer. The Deep River Community Association and the Underwater Club initiated fund raising drives and Swim-a-Thons to finance extras such as acoustical tiles, racing lanes and underwater lighting for the new indoor pool scheduled to be built. The major sources of financing for the pool came from local taxation, the Renfrew County School Board and a Wintario grant. Negotiations began in 1972 with the pool opening March 1976. The pool scheduling encourages full community use with programs for the physically handicapped, groups, schools and instructional programs for all ages.

For further information contact:

Mr. W.J. Eurairé  
Recreation Director  
Box 400  
Deep River, Ontario  
K0J 1P0  
(613) 584-3373

### **Prescott Downtown And Waterfront Reborn**

The downtown and adjacent waterfront area of Prescott, was deteriorating and many customers from the town were attracted to a shopping mall in a nearby city.

Concerned citizens and merchants launched a program to alter this degeneration of the town's core.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Historical Society, Town Planning Board and an architectural student drafted the initial proposal of changes at a public cost of \$1,000. The town painted sign posts, built handsome wooden litter containers, and placed hanging plants along the main streets. Merchants at their own cost painted store-fronts and removed overhanging signs to display the unique woodworking and eaves of the downtown buildings. The Gilkison Building, one of the first structures built in Prescott to house trading offices for the busy St. Lawrence River, was restored and restyled as a Town Museum and meeting hall.

The first two formative meetings were held in the spring of 1972 with all repairs and restoration completed by October 1975.

The citizens of Prescott achieved the change in the town's appearance on a low budget but high level of participation.

Merchants report business improved and the Prescott citizens are proud and appreciative of the revitalized downtown.

For further information contact:

Sandra S. Lawn  
Councillor  
Box 1634  
Prescott, Ontario  
K0E 1T0  
(613) 925-3480

### **Historic Kingston Preserved**

Kingston has a greater number of 19th century buildings of architectural merit than any city in the province.

The public buildings are outstanding and unique in their grouping and in the quality of their design. The general overall unity of the buildings arises from the use of hard limestone of the area. The style of buildings erected in the 1840's and 1850's, which were the period of Kingston's importance during that century, is mainly classical.

Citizens' concern over the disappearance of historic buildings was widely expressed in the 1950's but attempts to bring in provincial and municipal control met with little success.

Finally in 1970 the City of Kingston Act gave the city some authority to protect historic buildings and establish the Committee of Architectural

Review composed of knowledgeable and interested citizens to recommend a positive program of preservation.

The committee has undertaken a program of identification of all the buildings of historical and architectural significance in the city of Kingston and to protect such buildings from demolition or unsympathetic alterations. To date, approximately 150 buildings have been described in three published volumes and 76 buildings designated as historical. Work is continuing on the completion of three more volumes.

The Architectural Advisory Committee meets twice monthly and sends its recommendations to the city planning board for transmission to council. The research is carried out over the summer months by two university students employed by the city and subsidized 75 per cent by the province. Printing costs for the volumes are borne by the city but are almost entirely offset by sales to the public.

There are also private citizen organizations at work in the area to preserve and designate historic buildings. The Frontenac Historic Society formed in 1972 is such an organization.

For further information contact:  
G. Muirhead  
Director of Urban Planning and  
Renewal  
City Hall  
Kingston, Ontario  
(613) 546-4291

## **Recreation And Social Centres For Senior Citizens**

In Oakville, for approximately 12 years there have been organized senior citizens groups. However, facilities for the groups did not exist. The clubs were forced to share premises with other community groups and as a result, problems in scheduling, the necessity of restricting senior citizens activities and problems of permanent storage of equipment and crafts occurred.

Through the Oakville Parks and Recreation Commission, approval was given by the town council to build a drop-in-centre for the senior citizens of the area. The project cost was shared 70 per cent by the municipality and 30 per cent by the provincial government.

Location and design of the centre was based on suggestions by the Aged Branch of Social and Family Services and senior citizens who would be using the facilities.

The centre is used extensively by more than 350 senior citizens who participate in the creation and execution of programs. Activities are conducted on a continuous basis by paid and volunteer staff. The exchange of skills include cooking, piano, choir and harmonica band. The senior citizens are encouraged to drop-in anytime.

The project was begun in April 1975 and completed in October 1975.





For further information contact:  
 Mr. J. "Bud" Brown  
 Supervisor of Facilities  
 Parks and Recreation Department  
 Box 310  
 Oakville, Ontario  
 (416) 845-6601

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In September 1973 the Senior Citizens Hall in Trenton opened its doors for use as a meeting centre for recreational and social activities. A substantial grant from the Belleville Yardmen's Association and a walk-a-thon funded the building project while equipment and craft materials were purchased by a federal government grant. Within the club, there were many retired senior citizens who had experience in the building profession and freely donated their skills to the actual construction of the premises. The Trenton citizens are understandably proud of this achievement made possible by the many citizens who voluntarily assisted.

For further information contact:  
 Mr. Stan Clarke  
 24 McCann Street  
 Trenton, Ontario

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Several senior citizens in the 1000 Island region wanted to meet regularly with other companions, as many were isolated in this predominantly rural area. Through grants from the township and provincial government a four room school was converted into a recreation centre in 1974 for senior citizen purposes. The centre has brought enjoyment to the many who participate.

For further information contact:  
 Mrs. Harold DeWolfe  
 R.R. 2  
 Mallorytown, Ontario  
 K0E 1R0  
 (613) 659-2344

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Well-Come Inn in Exeter lives up to its name—at anytime day or night.

In July 1975 the centre for senior citizens was opened. The local Lion's Club provided the building, the federal government the grant for renovations and the senior citizens were responsible for the labour. A local contractor donated his professional guidance.

For further information contact:  
 Mr. Bruce Shaw  
 249 Pryde Boulevard  
 Exter, Ontario

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The Pinewood Get-together Centre is primarily for the recreational purposes of senior citizens, but not exclusively.

Young people are encouraged to and do join the senior citizens to work at crafts woodworking and other activities. The project was organized by senior and young citizens with federal government funding.

An old building was recycled and an adjoining segment of land trimmed into a park area.

For further information contact:  
 Mrs. C.E. Cunningham  
 Box 40  
 Pinewood, Ontario  
 P0W 1K0  
 (807) 483-5480

## **A Community Centre And School Are Combined Into A Community School**

When the threat of the old local school being torn down confronted the citizens of Ogden community of Thunder Bay, it presented the problem of where to store equipment used by local community groups.

Promoting the concept of a new Community School, the citizens approached the local board of education and within a short period of time construction began on Ogden Community School.

The upper level of the dual purpose community school is the school itself. It consists of two large teaching areas, each accommodating four classes. The program is open concept, continuous progress for pupils from kindergarten to grade six. A large gymnasium with showers and change rooms is used by both student and community groups.

The lower level is designed for community use and provides a variety of types and sizes of rooms and facilities such as offices, a kitchen, and craft rooms.

A community development officer has been appointed to arrange interesting and useful programming attuned to community needs. The potential outcome of this building will be to unite not only the school and the community, but also the various groups within the community.

The complex will provide programming for ages ranging from early childhood to senior citizen.

The financing was shared. The Ministry of Education contributed 65 per cent, Parks and Recreation 25 per cent and the local Board of Education 10 per cent.

The Ogden Community School is definitely a unique and working solution to a community need.

For further information contact:

Mr. Joe Fiorrito  
Program Director  
Ogden Community School  
600 McKenzie Street  
Thunder Bay "F", Ontario

## **Volunteer Citizens Man Counselling Centre**

The Woolwich Interfaith Counselling Service was established by local citizens who volunteer their time to counsel those with family problems. A board of directors has been elected from the volunteers to manage the centre.

Funding depends on donations from individuals, service clubs, churches and industry.

Until the centre opened in February 1976 there was no counselling service available in the community for those requiring help or guidance.

For further information contact:  
Reverend Howard Guse  
Chairman  
Woolwich Interfaith Counselling Centre  
60 Arthur Street South  
Elmira, Ontario  
N3B 3M9  
(519) 669-5591

## **Live-In And Recreation Centre For Senior Citizens**

Mr. & Mrs. Charles and Isabel Lee of Owen Sound made provisions that their estate should go towards establishing a home for senior citizens who are in reasonably good health but unable to maintain their own homes. The trustees of the Lee estate had to obtain assistance from the municipal and town councils as there was not sufficient money to act independently. However through joint co-operation, the opening ceremonies for Lee Manor were able to be held on October 1973.

The concept of Lee Manor provides a centre for recreation and social activities for both the live-in residents and senior citizens in the community.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Robert Bucher  
Lee Manor  
876 6th Street East  
Owen Sound, Ontario

## **Thrift Shop In The Age Of Recyclables**

In this age of encouraged recycling, the Elmira Thrift Shop offers the opportunity for people to donate used articles in good condition for future use rather than discarding them.

It was begun in May 1974 by a group of interested citizens who were able to locate a site for the shop rent free.

The local newspaper gave ample coverage of the shop resulting in a tremendous response from the public of donations in clothes and articles.

The Elmira Thrift Shop is registered as a charitable organization with the executive being comprised of volunteers.

For further information contact:  
Mrs. Elvin Martin  
President of Elmira Thrift Shop  
15 Park Avenue  
Elmira, Ontario

## **Religious Material Supplements School Libraries**

The local ministers from various denominations in the municipality of Carleton felt that there was not enough religious reading material available in the area school libraries. The ministers met with the Carleton Board of Education and received their consent to supplement the libraries with religious material. The ministers then took their proposals back to the congregations and through generous donations were able to select books from the following guidelines: comparative religions, age graded religious novels, history of the churches and age graded interpretation of the Bible. The schools, depending on size, were given 35 to 75 books at a total cost of \$157.

The librarians were invited to approach the churches to replace books as they wore out or to request additional books.

Within three months most of the books had been borrowed frequently enough to require new library cards.

Religious material on all basic faiths has been made available in Carlton area schools through the efforts of concerned citizens.

For further information contact:  
Reverend Don Anderson  
School Library Supplement  
Fitzroy Harbour, Ontario  
K0A 1X0  
(613) 623-3730

### **Volunteers Assist In Chinese Outreach Project**

In 1972, a chinese speaking worker with the Woodgreen Community Centre unexpectedly realized that there was a population of 8,000-10,000 chinese speaking persons in the South Riverdale area in Toronto. Of these resident 75 per cent did not speak English and 50 per cent were unable to read either English or Chinese. Language barriers, coupled with cultural differences inhibited their adjustment and settlement in their new homeland, to the extent that assistance from social agencies was urgently needed.

The following programs were devised to alleviate some of the problems listed above.

Services to Chinese immigrants: interpreting, information, counselling, job placement and orientation.

Programs for the Chinese elderly persons: hospital visits, Thursday Drop-in, monthly birthday parties,

recreation and companionship through the Chinese Elderly Persons club activities.

Programs for Chinese Adults: leadership training, English classes, orientation, weekend family programs and women's workshops.

Woodgreen would not be able to carry out these and other programs and activities if it were not for the many volunteers who assist.

Funding for the centre is received from all three levels of government. The Royal Bank of Canada provided short term funding for some programs while other businesses have frequently made contributions.

For further information contact:  
Mr. John Cheng  
Woodgreen Outreach Project  
835 Queen Street East  
M4M 1H9  
(416) 461-1168

### **"Contact" Deals With Problems**

The Contact Telephone and Referral Centre has been operating from the Midland Civic Centre since March 1973. Contact, as it is familiarly referred to, deals with problems by referring the caller to a specific agency or by helping directly in a confidential and professional manner. Callers seeking part-time jobs, babysitters, reasonable housing and senior citizens needing help or guidance use the service.

The Board of Directors is selected from a broad cross-section of area citizens. An administrator chosen by



the Board is directly responsible to the Board and manages the staff and the centre.

Finances have been received from L.I.P. and O.F.Y. grants, all levels of government, industry and private citizens.

Often the average citizen is not familiar with how to reach appropriate sources of information. The Contact Telephone and Referral Centre seems to be bridging this gap for the citizens in the Midland area.

For further information contact:

Mrs. W.N. Keefe  
Administrator  
Contact Telephone and Referral Service  
Civic Centre  
Midland, Ontario  
(705) 526-9333

The Community Information Centre in Elmira has many of the answers. It serves all of the residents of the surrounding Woolwich Township.

Now registered as a charitable organization, it has a board of governors elected from the volunteers who manage the centre. The centre was opened November 1974 and continues to respond to inquiries from the local and visiting public.

For further information contact:

Mrs. Linda Synder  
Woolwich Community Information Centre  
69 Arthur Street South  
Elmira, Ontario  
(519) 669-2646

## **A Centre for Senior Citizens**

In the community of Little Current, senior citizens comprise 20 per cent of the population. Mr. Goldwin Tustian and 14 other senior citizens from the Harmony Club explored avenues to find a location for social and recreational meetings. The Manitoulin Centennial Manor, a home for the aged offered the use of a common room and property for picnics and outdoor activities.

Through funding from a New Horizons and municipal grants, shuffle board courts, a six hole golf course, horse shoe pitching and furnishings for the picnic area were added.

The club now has a membership of 70 who pay a fee of \$1 per annum and meetings are held twice a month. A transportation committee has been organized to ensure that every member is able to attend.

The Club makes frequent visits to citizens in the hospital and those confined to the Manor. Cards are a popular passtime in the winter with occasional skits and recitals given to raise funds for other community projects. In the summer months the picnic area overlooking the north channel is used extensively by the senior citizens as well as activities with their families encouraged.

Through the organization and persistence of the original group of senior citizens there are now facilities and activities for all to enjoy.

For further information contact:

J. Lucien Aubin  
Box 575  
18 Blake Street East  
Little Current, Ontario  
P0P 1K0  
(705) 368-3072

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The Roxborough Senior Citizen Sunshine Club services the village of Moose Creek and the surrounding towns of Monkland, and Avonmae. The idea for a meeting place for citizens in this area was brought about by concerned citizens who organized and then applied for a provincial government grant.

The senior citizens took part in the building and finishing of their club. The centre provides social intermingling and programmes that encourages self-help among senior citizens.

The project was begun in September 1974 and completed April 1975.

For further information contact:

Emery Brumt  
Moose Creek, Ontario  
(613) 538-2225

## **A Festival In Zurich**

A festival in Zurich is held the fourth Saturday in August. The event has been enjoyed over the past ten years. Church groups, charitable organizations, service clubs, etc. set up concessions displaying local crafts, arts and home baking. All age groups help with the work to ensure the success of the Festival, then everyone sits down to a hearty meal of beans, ham and salad.

For further information contact:  
Zurich Bean Festival  
Zurich, Ontario



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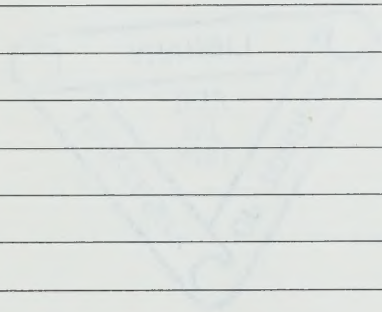
**Transportation** 22, 35, 48



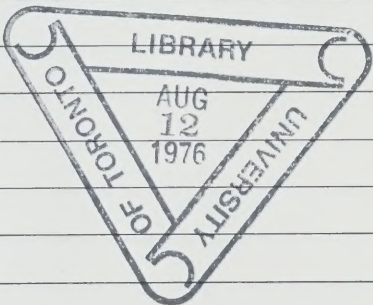
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